The German Tribune

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New diplomatic initiative to ease Berlin tension



Four-power talks on Berlin form an alienable part of Europe's unfinished ost-war past. From time to time the estern Allies or the Soviet Union fall ack on this reserve topic of East-West olitics.

On this occasion the exchange began ith a proposal made by Soviet Foreign inister Gromyko on 11 July 1969. The ffer to discuss the situation contained in e identical memoranda of the three estern powers is designed to put Soviet adiness to relax tension to the test.

An improvement in the situation of est Berlin, the Soviet government is minded, would be of service to joint scussion of issues related to European curity.

How the situation of West Berlin can improved by the Four powers jointly d with the aid of the two parts of ermany remains to be seen. Freedom of ccess between West Berlin and the Fede- l Republic is an aspect of the problem at is emphasised in the Western discus- on proposals.

Freedom of travel between the two lves of the city, since 13 August 1961 ought virtually to a standstill by the rlin Wall (which the authorities in East rlin are pleased to call the GDR state ontier), is a particularly important legal ght proposed by the three Allies in the emoranda as a topic for discussion.

The removal of certain restrictions on vilian traffic between West Berlin and e Federal Republic, the most important mmediate issue as far as the three Wes- rn powers and the Federal government e concerned, is for the c... side no doubt connected with the problems attached to what Moscow and East Berlin choose to call the independent political unit West Berlin.

Should discussion go beyond the special legal status of West Berlin, the legal status of its "situation"? Should there be any questioning of the factual and legal links between West Berlin and the Federal Republic that have been maintained since Krushchev's moves against the Western powers in November 1958 and spring 1959 despite Eastern pressure, Western partial concessions and self-imposed limitations and the concrete division of the city?

It does not look as though the three powers and the Federal government have made up their minds. Yet Four-power talks on Berlin and its access routes are bound to raise issues of this kind.

Agreement between the Four powers would necessarily be based on a common interpretation of the agreements in force and form the framework of intra-German agreements on the supervision of civilian traffic.

This is a point on which the three Western powers must needs defend their own special rights of occupation and the reason why they have lately reacted so allergically to this aspect of German policy towards the East.

A new round of Four-power talks on Berlin would be the first since the 1959 Geneva conference, France not having taken part in the 1962/63 Moscow talks on the possibilities of a relaxation of tension in Berlin.

That was prior to General de Gaulle's 1965 Moscow overture to an Eastern Europe policy of his own. The General on this occasion — before France's new diplomacy — refused to take part in Berlin talks under Soviet pressure and levelled serious accusations at Foreign Minister Schröder on that score.

In 1962 and 1963, as in 1958 and *1959*, the French government feared even that the Americans and the British would succumb to Eastern pressure and compromise with the Soviet Union, losing irreparable terrain in Berlin in the process.

The 1959 Geneva conference on Berlin and Germany, the last of its kind, eventually ended without progress having been made. A decade later it is worthwhile recalling this cardinal fact now that the three Western powers have launched a fresh diplomatic initiative.

In its November 1958 notes the Soviet government announced its intention of liquidating the remains of the occupation regime and handing over to GDR authorities all functions temporarily carried out by Soviet officials within the framework of the agreements then in force.

Ever since, all political, legal and diplomatic moves by both sides on and around Berlin have been connected with this question of territorial rights and the competence of the GDR.

It is not uninteresting to note that *Walter Ulbricht in his 12* December address to the Socialist Unity Party central committee mentioned Berlin in one sentence only, coining a new phrase ("the special occupation area of West Berlin") in the process.

All he had to say was that "for certain reasons" he did not propose to deal with the Berlin Question in the context. The Moscow communiqué of the Warsaw Pact conference made no mention of Berlin either.

What lies behind this discretion following the sabre-rattling of troop manoeuvres round *the city* last spring during the election of the Federal President and the massive threats that were uttered at the *time?*

Viewed from Bonn it looks as though the Soviet leaders summoned Ulbricht to Moscow to tell him that there are to be no changes to the status quo in Berlin, but the talks alone will tell.

Until they have come to a conclusion scepticism and caution are called for in what is a complicated situation. There is no call for optimistic expectations of success.

Lothar Ruehl
(DIE WELT, 18 December 1969)



Trying to dot the i ....

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Walter Ulbricht's letter to President Heinemann

Handing over a letter at the Federal President's Office is a strange and devious way of starting negotiations with the Federal government but contacts between the communist power on German soil and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany can hardly be expected to occur without a certain sleight of hand — and this will by no means have been the last finesse.

No one doubts that the letter, the handing-over of which was first reported by the Soviet Zone news agency, will be answered and lead to negotiations. 1970 will even exceed the expectations of people who have been lamenting a backlog in discussion with the leaders of the communist sphere of influence between the Elbe and the Oder.

As regards the 18 December letter it is rather a pity that the Federal government did not publish the East Berlin draft state treaty submitted to transport negotiators a few weeks ago.

The draft applied maximum demands for full diplomatic recognition and observation of international norms in intra-German relations specifically to the transport sector.

Presumably the enclosure that accom*panied the latest communication contains* a similar attempt to gain recognition at the higher level of general relations between the two parts of Germany.

The People's Chamber "commission" empowering the East Berlin government to start the present game, not to mention the tenor of speeches delivered at the full session of the SED central committee, made continual mention of the sovereignty of the "GDR."

This in itself is nothing new. One does so wish that the Federal government would not make the politically interested section of the German population the object of manipulation by the East Berlin press office.

That the offer will lead to a meeting is a matter of course but it should be realised from the start that it will be a fighting advance and not a negotiation offer made because the ball is in Bonn's court or a forward retreat, as those who harbour illusions might imagine.

After waiting twenty years the advocates of communist policy on Germany between Moscow and the demarcation line now feel the time has come to try their hand again. Their tactics should not worry us.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 December 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Renunciation of the use of force in East and West

Moscow and Bonn are at present engaged in bilateral talks on an exchange of declarations renouncing the use of force. At the same time there exists a Warsaw Pact proposal for a multilateral "renunciation of the use of threat of force in relations between European countries," to be discussed at a European security conference.

Why all the fuss, lawyers may ask. The renunciation of the use of force is already part of the United Nations Charter, which is considered to be part of the corpus of international law.

Article 2 states that "The members of the Organisation forgo in their international relations the threat or use of force both against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state whatsoever and in any other way that does not conform with the aims of the United Nations."

It could, of course, be objected that the Federal Republic, the GDR and Switzerland are not members of the UN and that the UN Charter is not automatically binding on them but this cannot be the heart of the problem, since all three non-member states reckon to base their foreign policy on the Charter.

The drawbacks of the renunciation of the use of force are dialectical. The political vocabularies of the East and the West do not tally.

The separate existence and sovereignty of the GDR have still not unambigously been acknowledged by the West. This is one of the loopholes, since there is no mention in the UN Charter of renunciation of the use of force in "domestic" disputes.

This is one of the reasons why the GDR persistently not only demands full diplomatic recognition but also, unlike other Eastern Bloc countries, does not set great store by bilateral agreements with Bonn.

The Soviet Union, for that matter, is tacitly endeavouring to include the claim to a right to intervene in the communist camp commonly known as the Brezhnev doctrine in an East-West agreement to renounce the use of force, its allies not proving too keen on the idea.

Unity reigns in Warsaw Pact communiques only, all parties to the last Moscow meeting having advocated "expansion of relations between all countries in accordance with the principles of equality, non-intervention in domestic affairs and respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of existing frontiers" as though the invasion of Czechoslovakia had never taken place. Paper is longsuffering.

Of late orthodox Communists have envolved a tortuous train of thought as to why Article 2 of the UN Charter should not apply to communist countries.

When the Charter was framed, the argument goes, there was only one communist state, the Soviet Union. The Charter thus applied first and foremost to peaceful coexistence between countries of varying social orders. In the meantime the socialist camp has increased in size and while the UN Charter is the basis of East-West relations, relations between individual socialist countries are based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

Would acceptance of the Brezhnev doctrine then mean that within its sphere if influence the United States is also entitled to resort to military measures to counter unwelcome developments in other countries?

Spokesmen for the East deny that this is the case, the difference being that communist society is in accord with the course of history while capitalism is doomed to perish.

Quite apart from the fact that the United States would hardly subscribe to this argument raison d'etat based on a sense of mission is a triffle dangerous. There is every reason to assume that the Soviet Union is not planning to launch an attack on Western Europe but it is only a minute intellectual step from a defensive posture based on a sense of mission to an offensive one.

The same line of thought is widespread in the West too but a little subtler. US Secretary of State William C. Rogers may have stated in Brussels that the United States has no inclination to attend a European security conference merely to give Western blessing to the Brezhnev doctrine.

At the same time Washington has yet either to dissociate itself from military intervention in Central America, the Dominician Republic and Vietnam or even indicate that the policy has been dropped or modified.

An intervention clause can be read into the North Atlantic Treaty too. "Article 2," the official Comments on the North Atlantic Pact note, "clearly underlines the dual aspect of the alliance, which is not only defensive but also designed to maintain a way of life that unlike totalitarian Communism is dynamic, free and aimed at general prosperity.

The avant-garde in both East and West these days are opposed to international systems based on threat and domination sturctures in general, regardless whether based on the sacrosanct principles of the free market or of Marxism-Leninism. Progressive governments must act accordingly.

Pierre Simonitsch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 15 December 1969)

Fresh Berlin probe

In a note to the Soviet government the three Western powers again deal with Berlin. Its appearance had been expected for some time following Bonn discussions among the group of four and subsequent final touches by the Western Allies themselves.

The notes are based on the expectation that the Soviet Union will be prepared to talk about the status of Berlin, a subject not exactly characterised by clarity, and the security of access routes in a manner satisfactory from the city's point of view.

There is but faint ground for hope. The fact that the 12 September Soviet note did not demolish all hopes is little enough. The Western Allies nonetheless remain determined to bring about negotiations on Berlin with the aim of easing the situation slightly.

The American administration proposes to use the outcome as a test of Soviet willingness to pursue a policy of serious equalisation.

Caution is advisable. Even linking progress on Berlin to the success of the European security conference will not necessarily prompt the Kremlin to react favourably.

There is little in the way of further concessions the Western powers can make. The status of West Berlin must remain inviolable, so little of it is left. So why, one might ask, should Moscow be interested? There is never any harm in trying.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 December 1969)

Kremlin indulges in Balkanisation

Although no one in Belgrade had succumbed to the illusion that differences of opinion over Macedonia could be overcome during the visit to Yugoslavia of Bulgarian Foreign Minister Ivan Bazhev one cannot now help wondering just what he hoped to achieve.

Bazhev visited Belgrade of his own accord because, as his government saw it, normalisation of Yugoslav-Bulgarian relations brooked no delay.

It initially looked as though he intended joining the queue of socialist countries that have been courting Yugoslavia's good graces for a number of months.

But his proposals for Bulgaria to guarantee Yugoslavia's territorial integrity if Yugoslavia were to admit that the Macedonians are really Bulgarians has had the reverse effect. Prospective friendship has become open enmity.

DIE WELT

UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

For the time being Belgrade and Sofia are incapable of talking to one another in a reasonable manner. A mediator would be needed at the very least.

Maybe this is the reason for Bazhev's provocative behaviour on Yugoslav soil. There is only one conceivable mediator: the Soviet Union. This could well be the tactics involved, since Sofia's political importance would at the same time increase in relation to Belgrade.

Since Bulgaria takes good care not to upset the Soviet Union it can be assumed that it is playing the Kremlin's hand. The Bazhev plan can be taken as a hint to Yugoslavia that it will only find political peace and quiet in close association with all other socialist countries.

Moscow's old plan of gaining influence over the entire Balkans, including Yugoslavia, thus once again comes to the fore.

(DIE WELT, 15 December 1969)

Increased power for European Parliament

In the nineteenth storey of Bonn's parliamentary skyscraper the European Action Committee met. In Brussels the Agruculture, Finance and Foreign Ministers of the six Common Market countries discussed agricultural financing. In Strasbourg the European Parliament was in session.

Three events, three meanings, three synonyms for the state Europe is in — evidence that the European summit has really had some effect.

The significance and the synonyms can be outlined as follows: The European Action Committee (the Monnet Committee) is an intellectual pillar of the European movement, realities are decided in Brussels and the European Parliament laments its own impotence.

European integration is in progress at many levels, not merely parliamentary, but regardless of the progress achieved there can be no talk of European integration and unity as long as parliaments are not included.

In parliamentary democracies well-meaning movements, unions, associations and groupings can bring pressure to bear until they are blue in the face without effect if the parliaments as the standard-bearers of democracy are not interested.

In the case of the European Parliament the situation is different. Its members are all in favour but not allowed to act. Small wonder that the European Action Committee eloquently laments the European Parliament's lack of genuine parliamentary functions.

Condemned by the Six to speechmaking, it does not have what ought to be a self-evident right to check European institutions' expenditure, have a say in the way the money is spent and so bring influence to bear on political developments.

As governments well know (and a number of Common Market parliaments seem to be aware of the fact too), expenditure is politics, particularly when thousands of millions of Marks are at stake, and they are reluctant to relinquish control over the decision-making processes.

This represents obvious disregard for the spirit of European integration and the intentions of the Treaty of Rome on which the Common Market is based.

Now that extension and expansion of the Common Market are on the cards and new sectors such as the economy, currencies, social welfare policy and taxation law are due to be synchronised and later forged into a uniform system the European Parliament really ought to given greater powers.

It will not do to say that national parliaments keep a close eye on matters. Viewed from Paris, Rome, Bonn and even Brussels European integration takes on aspects altogether different from the way a genuine European Parliament would see things. As it now stands the European Parliament is a manifestation of goodwill but a powerless one.

Eduard Mergenthin

(Kieler Nachrichten, 16 December 1969)

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POLITICS

Towards a more effective division of ministerial responsibility

Kurt Georg Kiesinger's government was the first to implement a discreet and well thought out Cabinet reform programmes. It set up a Cabinet committee and a planning board which produced in the amazingly short space of nine months a report, complete with alternative suggestions.

Kiesinger got rid of one of the twenty ministries in operation in 1966. Now Chancellor Willy Brandt has cut the number from nineteen to fourteen. This is the same number of ministries as in the first Federal Republic government formed in 1949.

Certainly Willy Brandt would not have dared carry out this drastic manoeuvre had it not been for Kiesinger's promptings before him.

Furthermore Brandt's task was easier since his party is better disciplined and more unified than the CDU/CSU, which, despite the fact that it is considered as one in the Bundestag, in fact divided up the ministries between the two component parties as if they were separate.

Cutting down the number of ministries has the following advantage: In the past when a matter arose for which more than one ministry was responsible and it was found to be difficult to come to an agreement at ministerial level, state secretaries and as a last resort the cabinet had to be brought in.

Now coordination within the ministry can be achieved by the autonomous decision of the minister, which is a great simplification.

Added to this grouping together of certain duties in various political spheres under one ministry roof means that overlapping and duplications can be largely avoided. This cuts down drastically on wasted man-hours.

Finally the central administrative departments of four ministries have been abolished (two were amalgamated) freeing personnel for other work. The measure of the success of these moves will only be ascertained when the transition period has been completed.

The signs are that politicians in Bonn will have the transition on their plate for quite some time, since the duties performed by the now defunct ministries do not disappear overnight and cannot be wound up even in part with great simplicity. They must apportioned between the other remaining ministries.

The Family Welfare and Health Ministries are being merged. Responsibility for waterworks, clean air and noise abatement is being handed over to the Ministry of the Interior.

At first the personnel of the Posts and Telegraphs Ministry is being amalgamated with the Transport Ministry until the postal service have a similar structure to the Bundesbahn.

Some of the functions of the Ministry Federal Assets are being given to be Finance Ministry others to the Ministry for Economic Affairs.

The duties of the Ministry for Expellees are being among several other ministries.

From the point of view of the coalition it would also have been possible to dispense with the Housing Ministry and the Ministry for Development Aid. It would have been possible to unite the Housing Ministry with the Ministry of the Interior. The prerequisite for this would have to be that the Ministry of the Interior be relieved of some of its responsibilities such as sport, which would pass to be combined Health-Family Welfare Ministry.

Town and country planning could well have gone hand in hand with the waterworks, noise abatement and clean air administration.

But plans to do away with the Housing Ministry met with bitter opposition and feel through. The alternative would have been to re-transfer land planning to the Housing Ministry. (Former Housing Minister Paul Lücke transferred this duty of his own Ministry in 1960 when he was nominated Minister of the Interior, out of personal interests).

This Ministry would then have taken over the waterworks, clean air and noise abatement automatically.

From an organisational point of view there would have been a good deal of advantage in including the Development Aid Ministry in the Foreign Office. But Foreign Minister Scheel could scarcely have gone along with this idea.

His parliamentary political party first called for the setting up of a Ministry for aid to developing countries at the 1961 coalition negotiations and Walter Scheel, having won the day, became the first Development Aid Minister.

When the requirements of the underdeveloped nations are taken into consideration the existence of this ministry can be justified. Matters concerning development aid should be given special consideration divorced from the general round of foreign affairs.

There is no denying that for the present the Ministry for Intra-German Relations is essential. It was very difficult to realign the new departments and apportion duties to them. As a general rule no ministry wants to relinquish even one of its reponsibilities.

One hundred years ago Bismarck, no less, suffered from this "departmental patriotism" as he termed it.

In 1961, Konrad Adenauer wanted to shift the resonsibility for scientific and educational matters from the Ministry of the Interior to the Research Ministry (now known as the Education Ministry).

He failed to achieve this as a result of vehement protests on the part of the then Minister of the Interior Hermann Höcherl and his CDU Federal state group.

They had already lost one ministerial seat as compared with the previous government. For this reason they were adamant that nothing should jeopardise the ministries they still held. This is why these responsibilities could only recently be divided up differently.

Jursidiction in the administrative sector of the Ministry of the Interior and the financial sector of the Finance Ministry has been passed to the Ministry of Justice.

This is an extension to the Ministry for Judicature but nothing more. The administrative court for labour and social justice has reamined with the Ministry of Labour. Reasons given for this are justified by Basic Law. It seems far more accurate to consider that the real reason was to satisfy the trade union.

There has been a hard battle between Karl Schiller and Erhard Eppler, both of the SPD, over capital for the development aid programme. Schiller has won the day and this capital aid is staying closely linked to domestic and foreign economic policy. It is a moot point whether a weaker man than Schiller would have pressed this point home.

In summary it should be pointed out that the above-mentioned commission has carried out useful preparatory work. They can satisfy themselves that their plans are being pursued to a great extent.

This can be seen as the first stage og governmental reform, starting with ministerial reform. How useful this reform is will only be manifest after the transition period has elapsed.

It will only be seen after the first cabinet meeting with the reduced number of ministers. Whether there are sixteen of them (the Chancellor, the Minister attached to the Chancellor's Office and fourteen cabinet ministers) our 21 is a vast difference which could have a great effect on freedom of negotiations and decisiveness.

Reducing the number of ministries in operation ameliorates cooperation between the various ministries.

It is as a result of measures such as these and the grouping together of various ministerial tasks, to date divided among several ministries, that a more efficient, less red-tape burdened system will evolve. (DIE ZEIT, 19 December 1969)

Finding the rightful place for parliamentary state secretaries

Government spokesman Conrad Ahlers spoke in riddles. He announced that advice was still being taken on what was the correct position of parliamentary state secretaries.

Immediately thereupon, however, he reported a change in items on the agenda for the government in which the rights of parliamentary state secretaries would be explained at length and in detail.

It is not Ahler's fault that this muddle exists. It has existed since the idea of state secretaries was first conceived by the Grand coalition.

The intention of those who conceived the idea was clear. They wanted to follow the British example of under-secretaries or junior ministers, who are full represenatives of the head of a department. They represent him in his office, in the Cabinet and in parliament (Bundestag).

This intention was stillborn in the days of the Grand Coalition. Some parliamentary state secretaries achieved political renown and considerable power within their departments.

But according to the act covering their appointment their position is not at all powerful. They held no right to direct the ministry to which they were attached, unless the minister responsible gave them permission to do so.

The Bundestag had in fact relied on a statement from the Minister of the Interior, who had announced a change in the government's operating methods, according to which Cabinet Ministers should give directives to parliamentary state secretaries setting out their duties.

This statement was not observed. It is from this time that the Bundestag's suspicions, not without a firm basis, that permanent state secretaries knew how to keep the undesired competition of parliamentary state secretaries in check, arises.

In the new coalition government the system of parliamentary state secretaries is to be extended in its range of power and its numbers. Increasing the numbers has already succeeded famously. All ministries now have a parliamentary state secretary including small departments which could easily have done without one.

On the question of the powers of these men little progress has yet been made. The government has now decided on the promised changes to its operating methods. The state secretaries will represent Cabinet Ministers in the Cabinet, Bundestag and Bundesrat only when they are delivering statements from the Minister.

In his department the Minister is as a rule represented by permanent state secretaries but this rule does not apply to functions which are entrused to the parliamentary state secretary. It is also up to the Minister's judgment whether in certain specific cases he can allow a parliamentary state secretary to stand proxy for him.

A ruling such as this leaves room for all kinds of variations. The parliamentary state secretary may be the de fact representative of the Minister as is the case in the Finance Ministry. He may have a position which puts him practically on the level with the permanent state secretary, as is the case in the Economic Affairs Ministry. He may be the man responsible for certain specific projects such as penal reform in the Ministry of Justice. He may be a simple assistant to the Minister or a kind of "Ober-Minister" as is the case in the Ministry of Education.

The ruling is very pragmatic but it does lead to disputes over how much authority the men have. The parliamentary state secretary remains a remarkable hybrid between Minister and parliamentarian. He represents the Minister in the Bundestag and casts a useful vote at committee meetings. He is partly the political head of the department, inasmuch as his Minister allows it, and partly a political official, inasmuch as his statesecretary colleagues agree to it.

In the long run this ruling is unenforcible. In fact the institution will only gain any meaning against the background of large-scale cabinet reform.

If attempts were successful to form iform an inner cabinet, a decision-making cabinet, of about half a dozen ministers around whom a larger cabinet of fiteen to twenty ministers were grouped, with a member of the inner cabinet having a seat in the larger group then the political construction of the ministries would be puposeful.

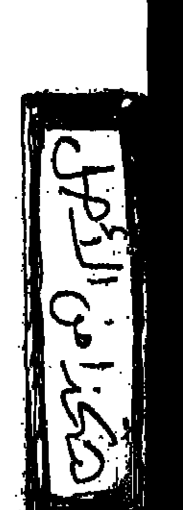
In this case the parliamentary state secretaries could form this outer cabinet along with those ministers who only preside over a small department. Then there would finally be some sense in an alteration to Basic Law giving parliamentary state secretaries cabinet rank.

There is justified discontent in the Bundestag with the present ruling. Members of the Bundestag are concerned to force a change to Basic Law which will determine the rightful positon of parliamentary state secretaries once and for all.

There is a conflict in the relationship between cabinet reform and attempts to pin-point the tasks and responsibilities of parliamentary state secretaries. The Bundestag must step in here. All others suggestions only add to the already considerable confusion.

Rolf Zundel

(DIE ZEIT, 19 December 1969)



■ HOME AFFAIRS

Bundestag to be computerised

GENERAL PUBLIC TO BE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT DEBATES

Shortage of space has only become critical since the Bundestag's new sky-scraper with 450 rooms and a restaurant on the roof came into service.

This block of flats for the use of members of the Bundestag has long, wide corridors and small working cells. The building was at first called "Tall Eugen" after Eugen Gerstenmaier but the more *frequent nickname* has now become "Eugen's Revenge".

But the shameful working situation of members of the Bundestag has not been alleviated. That sounds paradoxical but it is caused by the social change that has now also reached the Bundestag.

The classical back-bencher whose working style was modest and unassuming as were his intellectual pretensions is now being replaced — and the process will speed up in future — by a new type of member.

The new representatives, mostly in their younger years, approach legislative work more systematically and are accustomed to make constant use of scientific aids.

It is no wonder that the number of scientific assistants are increasing. They are appointed not only by the parliamentary parties but also by individual members who want to study expert fields either alone or in cooperation with colleagues. In future we shall have to reckon with the fact that every member will employ an assistant and a secretary. Demands on space would then double or treble.

In 1949 the Bundestag parties began with a small secretary's office and a few rooms for the Bundestag President. Now they occupy 250 rooms.

Structural changes in the Bundestag that are only just beginning will lead to increased demands on the research services. The library, archieves and clippings service will be used more frequently and more thoroughly than previously, resulting in a need for more personnel and more space.

The Bundeshaus library already contains 500,000 volumes. When the plenary sessions find a new, more pleasant home the present assembly chamber will be turned into a library.

Facilitating work

The Bundestag needs a modern computer store in order to pursue intensive legislative work. Discussion is still continuing on whether the Bundestag should use the computer planned for the Federal government, the press office's computer or build its own. The computer planned for use in divisions will also increase demands made on representatives. This equipment, constructed specially for this purpose, will not degrade the Bundestag into a voting machine but will free it from the lengthy and stultifying counting procedures like the repeated raising of hands or division through various doors. This will then create time and energy for more important activities.

In future every member will have a small panel in front of him on which he can his number, choose between the buttons marked "Yes", "No" and "Abstension" when a vote is taken and annual his vote by pressing a further button as long as voting is not over. Two other buttons will be on the panel and the member will press these when he wants to make a speech or seeks information.

The President, who is to be wished the



ability of a skilled draughtsman, will be able to look at a television screen and see how many members have voted for the motion, how many against and how many have abstained.

The computer will note which members wish to make a speech in the order in which they have pressed their buttons. At ordinary divisions the computer will list the names of the individual members and the way they voted. When the vote is to be kept secret the computer will keep this information to itself. We can only hope that the President does not press the wrong button in crucial situations.

To prevent a member from voting twice the vote is accepted only when the seat of the voting member bears a weight of at least 88 pounds.

One of the results of the voting computer could be that members will have at least a rough idea of what the debate is about. In future disciplined followers of the party line who always raise their hands at the same time as the party leadership on the front bench will be "leaderless".

In order to help members get orientated in the flood of paper with which they are overwhelmed the Bundestag's printed matter will now have a preface in which members can find out what the issue is, what solution is proposed, what alternative solutions there are and how much it will all cost.

Bundestag President Kai-Uwe von Hassel would like both members and public to be better informed on what goes on in the Bundestag, especially in its committees. Permission has been given to employ a chief editor and three editors who will in future publish parliamentary proceddings. Day to day events in the Bundestag will be summarised in a short, clear survey which will be available to all members, parliamentary employees and the press. On Fridays members will be able to receive a summary of the week in the Bundestag so that he can get a least a rough idea of parliamentary events of the week as he travels from Bonn to his constituency.

The last Bundestag carried out a minor parliamentary reform by limiting times of speeches of fiteen minutes and guaranteeing uninterrupted delivery. The new Bundestag is now faced with the task of renewing above all the right of immunity and the petitions bill.

All authorities will in future have to give information to the petitions committee if requested so that the committee



Kai-Uwe von Hassel

(Photo: Archiv)

can take over the role of the Scandinavian Ombudsman. In the Federal Republic we already have the Armed Forces Delegate who has the same role in the military sphere.

It is still not clear whether constitutional changes will be necessary with respect to authorities in the Federal states.

The alteration of the immunity law has been made topical by one citizen who felt himself insulted by a member and sued the Bundestag for damages when it refused to annual the members immunity. The plaintiff has already won in two proceedings.

Karl Hermann Flach

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 December 1969)

Alternatives possible in parliamentary reform

WESTMINSTER'S MODEL HAS BEEN PROPOSED

The first change of government in Bonn also gives a chance to parliamentary reformers.

In the past twenty years the Union parties often had inhibitions when it came to strengthening minorities in the Bundestag.

Now that they themselves are a minority and are experiencing the exigencies of Opposition it will be easier to come to an agreement on parliamentary rules and regulations. A necessary pre-condition however is that members, parties and the Bundestag President himself know, what sort of a parliament they actually want.

Two opposing ideas continually crop up in practice. On the one hand there is the model of the British house of Commons with a division between the government together with the governing party and Opposition. On the other hand there is the Continental pattern originating in constitutional monarchy where there is a "Classical" division between the government (once independent of parliament) and the parliament as a whole.

Although the system of parliamentary government was decided upon in Basic Law the constitutional pattern continually makes itself seen in practice. The Parliamentary Law of the Bundestag beans the stamp of the standing order of the parliament of the 1868 North German Confederation and not on the tradition of the lower house. The practice of parliamentary reform by small steps has produced a cross between the two forms without all members being aware of this, let alone all voters. The government bench has become lower, to put it into metaphorical terms. But it has remained a government bench. Sometimes Willy Brandt sits in a high position, sometimes low.

Former Bundestag President Eugen Gerstenmaier put forward clear aims

Süddeutsche Zeitung

years ago. His ideal was the House of Commons. He regretted that our parliamentary assembly had the character of an auditorium of the type that we get to know from the Kindergarten onwards through elementary school and secondary school right up to university. But Gerstenmaier did little to achieve his aims through practical reforms His successor Ka-Uwe von Hassel is the other way. He does not talk of aims but pursues with all his power a step by step reform of standing orders that is not altogether free from contradiction.

On the one hand the protection of minorities is strengthened, the principle of free speech is put into practice and debates are planned to become more lively. On the other hand the expert committees, that already had considerable ascendancy in the Bundestag, are being strengthened still further and are being made more independent.

It is still an open question whether the Bundestag is to remain primarily a legislative and working parliament, competing more or less successfully with ministerial bureaucracy, or whether it is to become a parliament of discussion with lively debate on great political issues challenging the voter and exposing the process of the formation of political determination.

Our Bundestag has obviously tended towards the first pattern. Experts and, often, interest groups a still predominate in the specialist circles of fraction work and on the committees.

Step by step reform

The present step by step reform does not reveal any clear strategic aims. But it can certainly point to the discontent of all members with present working conditions. Everyone is agreed on this point. Expert advisory service and access to computer banks are inadequate. Work is going on to improve this. The daily burden of reports and printed matter that lands on a member's desk is too much for him. A parliamentary report of two hundred pages will therefore be placed in his files or else thrown unread into the waste-paper basket.

The Bundestag President places a lot of hope in the computer that is to replace the antediluvian counting methods in the Bundestag. A press on a button does indeed guarantee that the member must make his decision independently.

Technology of this sort comes halfway towards the wishes of a new, more independent type of member. Perhaps one day this type will produce clear aims of the desired pattern of parliament.

As the way once proclaimed by Gerstenmaier, a change of style by a new seating arrangement and institutional force, has not been pursued we must rely upon the other possiblity — the gradual change of consciousness. History has shown often enough that diversions are are the quickest way to the eventual goal. In this case a parliamentarianism tailor-made to our times.

Hans Schuster

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 December 1969)

■ RELIGOUS AFFAIRS

Protestants close ranks

CHURCH IN NEED OF A SHOT IN THE ARM



Disunion and inner strife have been the constant companions of German Protestantism over the centuries.

It did not share the fate of French Protestants though. In the struggle for the throne French Protestants became a party of state and finally perished as a formative power when the aristocracy met with defeat.

But the connection of German Protestantism with the individual small territories has resulted in the particularism present in the Church's way of thought and is a serious obstacle to the revival of the Church.

The Protestant Church is also split into several inner confessions. The Lutheran, Reformed and Unitarian Churches are separate established churches in the various Federal states even though thousands of Protestants change their confession every day just by moving house. People moving from Hanau to Aschaffenburg do not need to change their faith but a trip in a removal van of ten to fifteen miles can turn a Unitarian into a Lutheran. In this instance we can no longer talk of the sublimity and tragedy of the Protestant Church but only of its absurdity.

The longer the division between Lutheran, Reformed and Unitarian Churches exists the less comprehensible it becomes. For years the impression of common responsibility has covered up the dividing issues and forces within the Church.

But the power of the dividing forces has revealed itself again and again. The last time was after the Seond World War when the denominational struggle gave rise to the joint Evangelical Church. The predominant part of the Lutheran Churches considered the Evangelical Church of Germany to be no more than a Church federation. It disputed its right to be a Church in the full sense of the word.

There is now a basis for hope as it is the Lutherans who are now beginning to consider what the Churches have in common. They are not just paying lip service to this. They have already started talks with Unitarians and members of the Reformed Church.

In spite of a few examples of lack of clarity it does not seem as though talks are being held only with the ulterior motive of giving modern expression to the antitheses of the sixteenth century that have now faded into incomprehensibility and thus make the barriers of division even higher. The declared purpose is to further the cause of Protestant unity. The first step is to be a joint theological declaration.

At the moment Communist pressure in the German Democratic Republic has destroyed the Evangelical Church in Germany as a unit. But in the solitude of theological discussion a new, deeper basis for the unity of all Protestants is making itself felt. There will soon be a bridge over the 440 years of division within the Church caused by the breakdown of the religious discussions between Luther and Zwingli in Marburg in 1529 which caused the divergence in the Protestant movement.

The clash between Luther and Zwingli caused a split that reached down to the very foundation of the Church. Calvin placed a deeper significance on the Last Supper than Zwingli did and in this approached Luther's position. In spite of this the split over the Last Supper could not be bridged.

Of course the contradictions cannot be limited exclusively to basic theological convictions. The conflict was accompanied and sometimes determined by the struggle of ideological opinions. These opinions are not relevant to people today and neither is the political motivation that added poison to the speedily growing estrangement four hundred years ago.

A clash of opinions over the Last Supper once caused a division in the Church. Who can appreciate that these days? The doctrinal differences within the Protestant movement those days cannot be preserved at will.Theological views too are different now. Unless we use distorting simplifications it is impossible today to say where the differences in opinions on the Last Supper actually are and why they should have caused a plit.

The Last Supper is not the only difference between Lutherans and members of the Reformed Church. Differences also crop up in other places such as Church organisation, social and political behaviour and baptism. But the mutual penetration of Reformed and Lutheran thought has had its effects. The dividing line no longer runs straight between members of the two Churches involved but obliquely across the two groups. The change in thought forces Protestants to close ranks.

This has reversed the thinking of Lutherans here this year. The tenacity once used to preserve the special position of the Lutherans is now being applied to the new goal of Protestant unity. There has not been any exuberance though. The small Reformed minority are worried in case they are swamped by a united Lutheran Church.

The aim is not to found a new Church. We have that already in the shape of the Evangelical Church of Germany. The task now is to give it life and vigour. The four and a half centuries of separate development have not only sown the seeds of spiritual narrowness. They have also produced spiritual and cultural variety that can be exploited in reviving the Church.

Karl-Alfred Odin

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 December 1969)

Church in critical position, says Bishop Scharf

The position of the Protestant Church in Germany and particularly West Berlin has become more critical within the last few months.

This was stated by Bishop Kurt Scharf in a recent report to the West regional synod of the Protestant Church of Berlin and Brandenburg.

Four points threatening the Church emerged from Bishop Scharf's report:

1: The number of people leaving the Church has risen more sharply than expected.

2: Criticism of the Church-rate has increased in significance.

3: The question of the unity of the Church of Berlin and Brandenburg has become particularly urgent.

4: A cause of anxiety is the crisis within the community of the Church, the crisis of confidence in doctrinal issues.

According to information given by Bishop Scharf 2,247 people in West Berlin left the Church in October 1969 — an increase of forty per cent of September 1969 and 120 per cent on October 1968. The average increase in the first eleven months of this year compared with the first eleven months of 1968 is seventy per cent. "Because of this," the Bishop continued, "Berlin is at the top of all member Churches of the Evangelical Church in Germany both in terms of numbers and percentage, closely followed by Hamburg."

Discussing the reasons why people left the Church Scharf mentioned assertions of the dubious character of the Church-rate, inner theological clashes, estrangement between parson and parishioners as well as political causes.

Young people criticise the Church because of its inhibiting effect on society, Scharf claimed, whereas older people leave becuuse the Church is becoming too politically involved.

(DIE WELT, 10 December 1969)

Swearing oaths - now and as it used to be done

In the television programme "Sixth-formers question the Federal President" Gustav Heinemann's words on the oath as a legal institution in a republican state prompted a public discussion that has long been in progress in various spheres such as the legal profession, the Army and the police as well as in the Church and in literature concerned with constitution and theology.

The significance of the swearing of oaths for the relationship of citizen and official power, state and civil servants, legal authority and freedom of conscience has come into more prominence since the Weimar constitution of the first German republic than in the times when rule was in the hands of an essentially undisputed worldly authority which exploited the religious connections and beliefs of its subjects to make them swear unconditional obedience.

The alternatives of oath or solemn vow is of particular topicality in the armed forces not only because of the oath of allegiance sworn to Hitler by the German armed forces in 1934 ad the discussion on the obligation to lasting obedience imposed by the oath in connection with the conspiracy and attempted assassination of Hitler on 20 July 1944, but also because of the basic rights and freedoms guaranteed in Basic Law.

According to Armed Forces Law today it is still the case that no soldier can be promoted if he refuses to take the oath even though he might be prepared to vow obedience, bravery and the readiness to defend the people and the constitution and fulfil the basic points of the formula of the oath. Military power is given only to those who swear on the flag and on Basic Law.

Officials too have a swear a similar oath, as do the heads of the state hierarchy, the Federal President, the Federal Chancellor, ministers in Bonn and in the Federal states as holders of supreme executive power and judges as bearers of juridicial power. The oaths of witnesses at court is meant to serve the interests of truth.

The swearing of oaths has its origins and essence in the incantation of a magical connection between man and a higher power that he calls upon as witness of his honesty and faith, on whose superhuman assistance he relies (God help me!) and whose retaliation he calls upon himself in an act of self-malediction if he should break the oath...

Before the birth of Christ and in the Old Testament the oath swearing faith and belief in the face of God or some supernatural providence retained its binding power as a statement of religious intentions and a affirmation of the duty to serve in the Christian principalieties or, after the political revolutions, in the secularised lay states of Europe.

France sweares in its soldiers and President. In the Soviet Union a soldier has to swear on the flag and invokes the curse of the working classes on him if he were ever to break his oath to the working people.

According to Matthew and James in the New Testament Jusus Christ taught that there should be no oaths so that the name of God would not be abused by Mankind.

But even so Christianity adopted the old heathen custom as a binding agent for the Word an eventually for the insoluble bond of the individual with his worldly master to the consecration and protection of duties laid upon him and not only those willingly accepted by him in the oath of allegiance.

Legend, symolism, tradition and mythology said that the oath was a quasi-religious incantation but it finally changed from the original mutually loyal relationship between liege lord and vassal to a solemnly affirmed subordination under a worldly dominion of God's grace.

This is the way that the oath, though toned down by law, comes from the nineteenth centruy by way of the Weimar Constitution and into modern law. It has a special paragraph in Basic Law. Article 56 deals with the Federal President's oath of office.

It has long been asked whether the oath or, more accurately, the vow in the form of an oath of the individual's increased obligation to the republic, the secular, democratically based state power and authority of the law and the ideologically neutral constitutional state is still meaningful and necessary.

The essential thing was never the confirmation by oath but the commitment. Calvin and Luther claimed only God's assistance for this even though this helped to make worldly authorities sacrosanct.

The essential point for a democratic republic and its legal authority remains the increased obligation of all those to whom the sovereign state entrusts law, executive power and the armed power of the people which they must use not only in the name of the people and after the letter of the law but also to the well-being of the people and the republic.

A republican state is neither an all-controlling society, keeping subjects under lock and key and constant surveillance nor a citizens' association to promote common well-being. It is far more "le peuple souverain", the constitutional order of a free people with the public good as postulated by the Jacobians of the First Republic and, following their example, Euroepan Democrats in the movements of 1848.

For all the talk of quasi-religious and methaphysical bonds there always remains the need for specific, public and fromel commitment to the republican constitution by all those who carry out the democratic state's executive power or serve it under arms.

Lothar Ruehl

(DIE WELT, 13 December 1969)

DRAMA

Sound effects play major role in new style radio play

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Action in the sound effects room. Listeners to the radio one evening recently would have heard a strange roaring. A lorry would pass by sounding like the bass of an organ. There would be the *grunts of cannibals and news fading out* about Fantomas, the comedian.

Listeners who had switched on thought that they were hearing noise from another planet. But when they had listened a little longer they realised that the strange roars, stutters, echoes and other noises could lay claim to the title of radio art.

Radio plays have now discovered studio technology and are now turning to something that studios for electronic music have long made possible for composers — emancipation from the spoken word. A synthetic radio reality is produced. Electronic sound has entered the spoken radio world.

Last spring that Vienna poets Ernst Jandl and Friederike Mayröcker received the Radio Play Award of the War Blind for their *Five Man People*. Since then there has been a state of radio plays relying emphasised sound effects. A whole regiment of young writers are advancing on the studios. They include members of the Vienna group, Wolf Wondratschek, Richard Hey and Peter Handke.

The time allotted to radio plays scarcely satisfies the appetite that these literati have for radio. This is certainly a question of money as radio plays are well paid especially when tow or three stations decide to go along on the venture and the result is a co-production transmitted all over the Federal Republic.

But it is also a question of artistic charm. There has been a great change here. A few years ago radio plays were considered to be a mass literary grave to accommodate friends and foes of Günter Eich. Today it is modern. The latitude allowed authors in radio is larger than in television and plays reach a wider audience when broadcast than when in book form. And stereophonic subtleties of sound have considerably increased the play's power of suggestion.

The new sound effects also have some importance for those writers who operate within a language, pulling it to bits and illuminating grammar and structure. It enables a culinary treatment of linguistic exercises. Aseptic puns receive nuances and this can lead to the alienation of language itself. Grammatic and acoustic lines atached to old habits of thought can be shown with the help of sound effects. Limitation on language itself and the noise of the world outside have both become equally as important in the modern radio play.

Is the earth an acoustic madhouse? One would think so anyway. The third group of writers to turn to the radio play are the realists, fans of the comic strip and voice poets who turn glottal stops into car horns.

Plenty of names can be mentioned. Included in the lists of writers of radio plays are Martin Walser, Hans Magnus Enzenberger, Peter O Chotjewitz, Mauricio Kagel, Wolf Wondratschek, Jürgen Becker, Paul Portner, Franz Mon, Bazon Brock, Gerhard Rühm, Uwe Brandner, Richard Hey, Urs Widmer, Manfred Bieler, Helga Nowak, Dieter Wellerhoff, Ludwig Harig, Wolfgang Bauer, Hans-Georg Behr and, a member of the old guard, Heinrich Böll.



This is an impressive list and could be further extended even though publishers were unable to find many authors of merit on home hunting grounds. No literary season has ever been quite as bad as this autumn. It looks as though novelists are concentrating on radio plays this year.

This was a surprising development for radio listeners. The good old radio play is far from being what is used to be. The time of pregnant silence and metaphysical quit are over. But the listener will not accept all that readily the sudden arrival of the world of noise. as brought to us by *Five Man People*. On top of this stereophony turns the enchantment of sound, the snarling guns and ringing bullets into a fatiguing loudness. And these plays composed of noise and speech are heard by so many people that the question of the criteria of quality becomes ever more urgent. This is a question to which there is no clear answer even today.

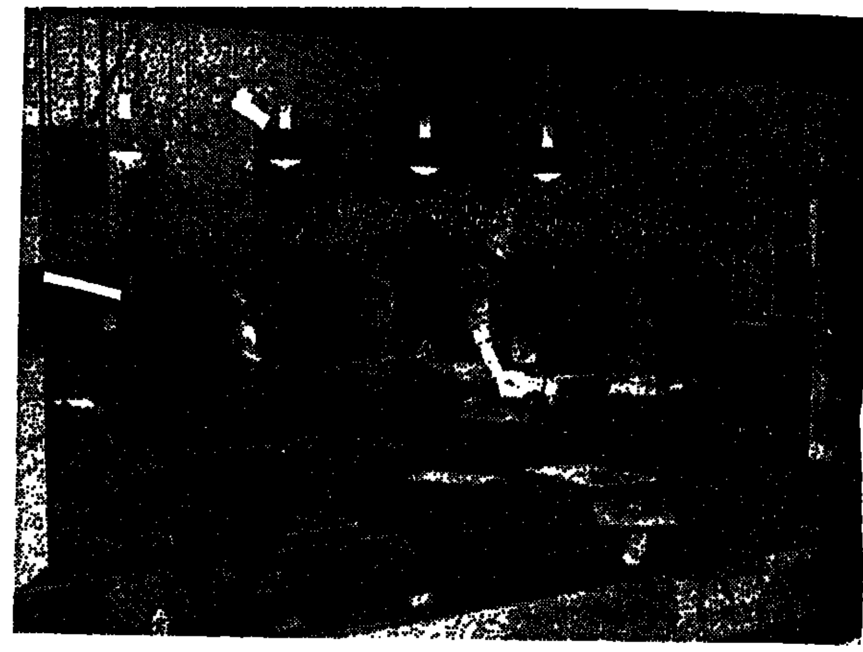
There are still no aesthetic theories for the new style of radio play. Preliminary experiences with stereo have done little to stake out the acoustic gains. Those hoping for valid categories will have to be patient — that is if the multi-media structure of radio and the combination of word, sound and music do indeed allow a codification of this sort. It can be imagined that the open style blasts all cherished aesthetic theories when on the radio too.

This surmise cropped up when we recently had the opportunity to listen to radio plays broadcast on the third programme of Westdeutscher Rundfunk. It was quite an exhaustive inventory as the young radio play vanguard seem to have found their home station here — probably because of the great financial possibilities in Cologne.

The first important work at Cologne was from the pen of Mauricio Kagel, the wonder man on the modern musical scene. At the Cologne station he produced a labyrinth of sounds by both artistic and technical means comparable to the labyrinths he obtains with gestures on the opera stage and with cable for the film camera.

In *State of Emergency* Kagel has really produced a state of emergency. He taped all the noises that are made when a radio play is being recorded in the studio and made a radio play from the results.

The world of art itself speaks. We hear the actors' sighs, they cry, voices hover in the air and in the midst of this and the technical hum comes gargling, groaning and breathing. There is no trace of a story line but of course this is self-evident where Kagel is concerned. It is not Big Brother who is listening but Big Actor establishing himself firmly in the listeners's ear. Kagel is transmitting chaos over the air. Sound effects are ready and waiting.



Actors in WDR's sound effects studio in Cologne

(Photo: Bernd Jansen)

Almost all the interesting new radio plays can be recognised as works of art. In his radio play *Basic Sounds and an Auditorium* which has already been broadcast Bazon Brock aims at distance on the part of the listener in the very title but the recorded result sounds more alienating.

Wolf Wondratschek is on the same wavelength but much better. His play about a long-distance lorry driver *Paul or the Destruction of a Radio Play* has already been broadcast. Its connecting link — to be placed in acoustic quote marks — is Paul the lorry driver himself. What Wondratschek does with him has a quality new for the genere of the radio play.

Paul is reduced to sounds that have something to do with him. He is reduced to sounds that he perceives, lives with and that say something about him. A film of sounds.

There are a few fade-ins. "Poets stop crying and begin to write" comes from the book *Once day begun with a Gun Wound* on which the play is based. We also hear a speech by Franz Josef Strauss. On the right there is a cemetary and Paul's co-driver is called Hugo. On the radio the Beatles are singing *It's A Hard Day's Night* and Bayern Munich are playing without Franz Beckenbauer. Surveying, the maps talk and lorry driver Paul races around his inner memories, daydreams and wishes.

"This radio play is an example of what I no longer consider to be a radio play," stated Wondratschek. An example indeed. The destruction succeeds. There is no sotry-line, no action. Instead there are events. This radio play questions the whole concept of the genre. It is a feature, a report, the protrait of a lorry driver on the road, a epic piece of radio.

And it is a work of art that turns the radio into an hour of acoustic world theatre. A world theatre that would be fully lost if it were not for the electronic sound effects of Heinz Hostnig. A play of resounding avenues and roaring main roads. Wondratschek says, "Works of art can be recognised by the connecting link. Paul scratches his head." And so does the listener...

The radio plays by Kagel, Brock and Wondratschek are representative of many other montages of word and sound transmitted by radio stations. This new sound is still experimental and has certainly not yet won the broad radio play public. But it has revolutionised traditional radio plays. The times are now long gone when authors could be fitted in with patterns of lyrical behaviour and the much-vaunted inner eye. The new radio play has also produced a new radio reality. It has voice and noise that merges pure sounds and the shriek of a motor to a unity never known before. The world of sound and noise has entered the studio and will in the end be transmitted as a new unity, an accredited image of our days of noise.

Manfred Leier

(DIE WELT, 3 December 1969)

George Sugarman - a man of plastic surprises

The case of the American sculptor George Sugarman is unusual and indeed surprising and confusing in many respects.

Born in New York, he was a keen drawer as early as his childhood. After many jobs he decided at the age of forty to become a sculptor. Between 1951 and 1955 he worked in Paris, for part of the time with Zadkine.

After returning to his homeland he produced one sculpture that labelled him an outsider and spoke the language of the other America. There is no trace in his work of Smith, Gallo or Segal.

Recognised with respect in New York, he is rather unknown in Europe and is only now coming to the attention of experts and art lovers on this side of the Atlantic with four large exhibitions containing his works. This is similar to the case of Lindner.

The works, exhibited in Morsbroich Castle until 18 December, caused much astonishment on all sides. Although it showed the works a man who is almost sixty there was no atmosphere of yesteryear about his work. It has the air of youth, the mixture of form and colours is original, unique and owes its power of conviction to a noble aesthetic sense, an overflowing imagination and at the same time the constructive precision resulting from a sculptor's calculation.

Enchantment would be the right word if it were used of a sculptor. But it is true. Enchantment sets in immediately people look attentively at one of these many-limbed, many-levelled forms, when they touch it, walk round it and indulge their eyes and hands. People must often been down and slide around on their knees to produce the right contact when observing and touching the sculptures. It is well worth the effort and constantly leads to new discoveries. Admiring distance is of no use here. Sugarman does not produce structures, configurations resplendent in their metal and machinery idols that Paolozzi does for example, works that demand critical distance.

Apart from the most recent tectonic works and the few cases when a pedestal or cubic foundation belongs to the whole Sugarman produces sculptures that are laid flat and unadorned on the floor, they "happen" in the horizontal position or rise from the floor to a moderate height.

They creep, shoot out, grow abundantly, stretch up high, serpent-like shapes twist and turn. Cubes, fanned segments, disks, plates, spirals, chains, pincers, and rectangular rods and linked semi-circled merge to form a strange unity.

Organic associations meet the eye and we see exotic animals and unpermitted crosses between natural creatures and artistic productions. Where are we? Have we entered a magical garden and the amorphousness of unbridled nature?

At the beginning of the sixties Sugar-

Continued on page 7

FILM

Hellmut Costard - man of the cinema with a difference

People in the Federal Republic first came to hear the name Hellmuth Costard in January 1968 when malcontents in Hamburg organised an underground film festival.

The "Filmakers" as they called themselves were generally disgruntled about the Federal Republic's regular film festivals in Oberhausen, Berlin and Mannheim, which scorned underground films and refused to accept their entry in competitions.

Their discontent had been mounting since 1967. Hellmuth Costard, a man in his mid-twenties, was one of the leaders of the rebels and his name was remembered since his films, at least those which got a showing, were proof that he understood his trade.

His name first came to fame at the "Federal Republic Film Shorts Congress" in Oberhausen in 1968 when he tried to get a screening for a film he had made which was directed against the Film Promoter's Organisation with the title *Besonders Wertvoll* (highly recommended).

The director of the Oberhausen Festival and the city's cultural adviser, Hilmar Hoffmann withdrew the film in order to avoid a general outcry.

The outcry came nevertheless. Filmmakers from this country withdrew their entries. Attempts were made to find other facilities for showing these films. So it happened that *Besonders Wertvoll* was first screened in the University at Bochum.

At this the local magistrates stepped in and threw §184 of Criminal Law at the filmmakers. They were accused of broadcasting obscene pictures... the trial is still going on!

Thus Hellmuth Costard came to fame. Now he is suffering from the after-effects of the outcry.

Nowadays he wants to make films that appear more sensible, as merry demonstration, but which remain senseless as they hardly ever receive a public showing.

He has said: "I have no wish to make films which remain in the cans and never go on show to audiences."

At the 1969 Mannheim filmweek he exhibited his film *Die Unterdrückung der Frau ist vor allem an dem Verhalten der Frau selber zu erkennen* (The Suppression of the Woman is Mainly Due to the Way She Herself Behaves.)

This shows the life of a grass widow whom he casts with a young male actor. At first Costard's film was misinterpreted. A large percentage of an audience which claimed to be experts left the cinema in Mannheim long before the film ended.

What they missed was a film in which Costard succeeded in portraying human aspects and giving humans their dues.

Now Costard is in his late twenties and he is an expert in his field. He has not got into a rut. He has found security. He has understood that his conventional methods were insecure.

Talent was presented on a plate and men came from television companies and asked how he would like to work for them.

"Of course I did not say no. I sent the Federal Republic's Western Television Channel (WDR) an exposé entitled *Verlassene und ratlose Frau* (Forsaken and Forlorn Woman). This was no more than three sides long. The company accepted. They sent money and a camera team even if it was only for a few short weeks.

"I started filming and as soon as I saw the mother I was horrified. I started all over again from the beginning. I changed the subject matter drastically and before I knew it I had a film.

"I did not ask the television people if they were agreed. I showed them the first edition of the film in Cologne. Not only did the WDR accept this film from me, they also gave me an extended contract. I will now go out of my way to warrant the trust these people have placed in me."

This really is something: the rebel against the estalishment has become established himself. He has, so to speak, reversed roles.

Has Costard remained the same man? Or has he betrayed his friends? For he has quit that underground filmmaking organisation which he helped to found.

He says: "It was all so terribly exhausting and there were so many discussions that it seemed we hardly ever got down to producing anything. I want to make films. I want to depict our times, our people, the affirmation and negation of life. But I do not want to be bothered any more how to find the cash to finance these films.

"I an tired of wasting time giving detailed accounts of what money I have spent and where I have spent it in order to obtain more money which I will have to account for in a similar way.

"My films are intended to be effective, even if they are not always pleasing," he added. "But I cannot throw away valuable time sitting in smoky rooms listening to a load of rubbish or even talking it myself. Life is much more important to me and it is on this life that I want to train my camera."

This is the same Hellmuth Costard who spent the best part of spring 1968 trying to sell his film *Besonders Wertvoll*. In Mannheim he laughed about these days spent in Oberhausen. "That was a crazy game," he said.

Hellmuth Costard is alive and adaptable. He lives. He reflects on life.

"Sometimes I am ashamed of myself. But when I look at the alternative, either to make no films because I have no money, or to make four films of my own choosing and still have something in the bank, I capitulate. I film and will continue to do so."

(Kieler Nachrichten, 6 December 1969)

Continued from page 6

man started using colour and pledged himself to all the possibilities of polychrome and used them both cunningly and eccentricly. But he does more than simply paint the wood. He colours it in and creates bodies of colour.

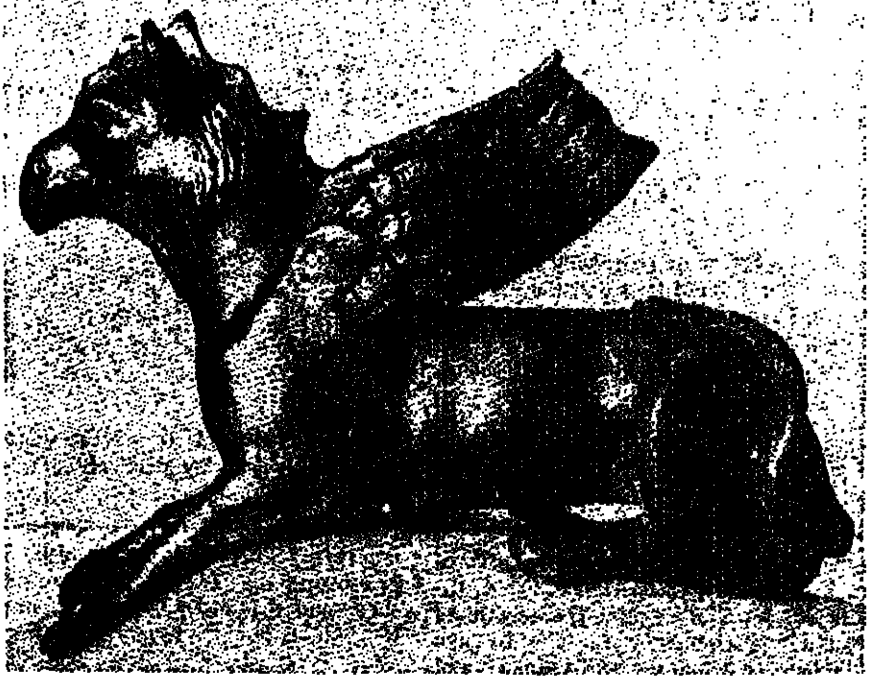
Corresponding to the variety of forms the composition of which is based on the law of addition and variation there is a wide variety of the palette that does not draw back from any multicoloured piece of cheek (on work from the year 1966 has no less than 28 colours), from any clownery, nor from any mood or fancy. But the shaping hand can always be seen together with the strictness of the calculation that checks amorphous tendencies.

In one case the wood is painted green. Red tongues shoot out bodly and an agglomeration of white balances the selection of colours.

Sugarman's plastic work does not deal with volume and usual compactness with its strata, layers, gradations and lateral thrusts, with its holes, passages, hollows and cavities it is nearly always open on all sides as if made specially for children to construct it further or climb on its steep steps.

We do not need to warn about multicoloured magic. Behind everything we can be seen the maturity of a man who has refound the seriousness that a child has when playing. *Reinhold Lindemann*

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 5 December 1969)



Roman bronze discovered near Xanten, now at the Rhineland Museum

(Photo: Katalog)

Reopening of Rhineland Museum in Bonn

Bonn and the Rhineland has got its state museum back at last. After six years of building work the doors reopened on 4 December. The first stage of the work was a completely new section which was approved in summer 1967.

The second stage of the operation was large-scale restoration work on that part of the old building which survived the pounding of the last war with its shell more or less intact. The rebuilding cost in all 16 million Marks of which only about 2.3 million Marks was absorbed by restoration of the old part of the building.

The completed work is not an architectural unit but rather the best possible compromise in the circumstances. The Federal capital and the Rhineland can be equally proud of it.

In a prospectus it is stated that the Reinische Landesmuseum the largest museum in the west of the Federal Republic, having more than 70 rooms and a floor area of nearly 6,000 square yards. This makes it almost three times as large as the Cologne Kunsthalle, one third as large again as the Wallraf Richartz Museum, one fourth as large again as the Alte Pinakothek in Munich and it is three fifths the size of Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.

But it is not only size of the museum that proves its worth but also and particularly what it contains. And in this

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

respect the house in Bonn's Colmantstrasse is worth seeing. The Reinische Landesmuseum has fulfilled the duty entrusted to it almost 150 years ago in providing a magnificent location for a collection of Rhineland art and culture from prehistory up to the present day.

In the museum's lapidarium are more than 2,500 Roman inscriptions, sculptures, reliefs and fragments of architectural work. But only a fraction of these are on show.

This renovated old part of the building dating back to 1909 can be reached by a new staircase, and its unfortunate design proves to be the only obvious weakness of the re-building programme. It is a pity that architect Rainer Schell from Wiesbaden did not show more inspiration here.

But when the visitor passes immediately beyond this into the light of the two-storey hall which is imposing without showing any signs of megolomania he senses the atmosphere of that greatness which Roman art gave to the Western world.

The Romans are in fact in possession of the main hall and ante-rooms. On show are monuments from family tombs which compete fiercely with those on show in Cologne's Römisch-Germanisches Museum. There is a sculpted lion with its prey, a wild boar, which was formerly on a Roman grave in Cologne. Portraits of various caesars are on exhibition as well as a mosaic found near. Bad Kreuznach with a Sun-god and circle of animals, dating from about 250 A.D. Towering over everything is the end wall of a large Roman pillared hall which once belonged to a temple in Aachen.

One outstanding piece is a "Sandalenlösende Venus" from the first half of the second century A.D. The significance of this piece can be postulated by comparison with similar works although the woman from antiquity has long since lost her feet and hands. She was discovered in a Roman cloaca near Xanten not long ago.

Other departments in the museum are devoted to chronicling the history of the Roman settlement, the economy of the conquering Latins, their daily life, their culture and religions.

There are columns dedicated to Jupiter and altars and in addition those magic signs and religious symbols which have a phallic nature and which in earlier days were kept in treasuries.

In the upper storey of the rebuilt old part of the building the exhibition is of Rhineland art since 1400 beginning with Gothic altar-pieces and madonnas.

One highlight is the special exhibition "Renaissance in Cologne". It reflects townlife and culture in the sixteenth century with portraits of patricians, craftsmen's work and magnificent marquetry cupboards.

The greatest surprise of all this is the Dutch picture cabinet in seventeenth century style with miniature paintings from the time.

The Reinische Landesmuseum which has for several years also been collecting modern Rhineland art has become one of the great attractions with its first stage of rebuilding.

In a few days the 100,000th visitor in 1969 will pass through the turnstile.

Horst Richter

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 December 1969)

■ EDUCATION

New professional image wanted for chemists

TRAINING MAINLY A QUESTION OF EFFICIENT ORGANISATION

The problems of chemistry at university was the subject fo a discussion organised in Frankfurt by this country's Association of Chemists.

Two professors, two assistant lecturers, two students, two representatives of industry and one delegate from the Education Ministry of the Federal state of Hesse took part.

The discussion bore the title "The future of research and teaching in chemistry". Additional topics were the unity of teaching and reasearch, the desire of the state for more influence, the reform of the study of chemistry, the way to cope with increasing numbers of students and student participation in university decision-making. As only the last three of these topics were discussed research inevitably came off badly.

As a branch of industry with particularly effective research and development the future of chemistry is determined by the quality of those active within the science. The problem of their training is pre-eminently a question of conception and organisation.

During the discussion the university representatives regretted the fact that the industry did little to say what functions the chemist had in industry. A reform of chemical studies is not possible unless there is a clear definition of what will be required of the chemist in future.

While the chemical industry used to see the aim of a reform of studies as being



primarily intended to obtain younger graduates it is today genuinely interested in new professional images.

It is clear that there is no sense in employing only graduate chemists. The proportion of non-graduate chemists in the chemical industry is ten per cent and the number is going to increase in future.

Discussion is still continuing on the form of training to be given to non-graduates. But all delegates are unanimous that the university courses for chemists no longer match up to present needs. Participants at the discussion were strongly in favour of education that was focussed on method rather than material. They agreed unanimously that a shorter period of training should not be allowed to endanger a chemist's flexibility. To attain the new aims an intensive cooperation between university and industry is necessary.

The demand for the creation of an adequate number of places for students should gain priority over university reorganisation. Not only industry but, remarkably enough, student representatives brought admission problems and the question of a rational use of laboratory places into the forefront of the discussion.

They rejected a central admission process of the type practised for medical students. One alternative discussed was a sort of preliminary semester that would take the form of intensive professional advice. This has recently been introduced in Darmstadt but it is still too early to obtain any results from this.

The present course of study comprising lecturers, seminars and laboratory training allows the utilisation of at best 55 per cent of laboratory places available. To increase efficiency and effectiveness Professor Sinn suggested a shift system that would allow six solid hours of work in the laboratory. To put this into practice other teaching methods must be introduced in the mass media. Similar plans are to be introduced next year as an experiment in Freiburg and Saarbrücken.

It was only to be expected that the issue of student participation in university decision-making and the participation of all other groups involved would arouse particularly lively discussion. In spite of the differences in points of view expressed the debate was remarkably objective. This can be traced not least to the fact that scientists were discussing among themselves.

Nobody questioned the principle of participation. The only argument was as to how it was to be put into practice. To all appearances even students in the scientific faculties accepted the fact that students participating in decision-making should have some academic qualification. Professor Brederick, the president of the Association of Federal Republic Chemists, could therefore repeat an earlier suggestion that problems of university reform should first be dealt with on academic levels and then afterwards be discussed within the wider framework.

Lothar Franzke

(Handelsblatt, 8 December 1969)

School boys and girls on the town council



The town council of Datteln has just made a decision unusual in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

It voted unanimously in favour of a proposal by its mayor, Horst Niggemeier, that pupils from the town's grammar, secondary and trade schools should be allowed to sit on the council as advisers during the five year legislative period that has just begun.

In future two Datteln scholars will give information and advice to town councillors in the committees dealing with educational matters.

Mayor Niggemeier, a journalist by profession, said, "Both provincial assemblies and the Bundestag want to lower the voting age to eighteen. Young people will then be in the position of being able to exert decisive influence on the composition of these parliaments. They must be given an early chance of practising democracy. If we consider them mature enough to vote at eighteen then they must be old enough at sixteen or seventeen to give advice and opinions."

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 4 December 1969)

Students help pupils at elementary school

Members of the action group for better education in Berlin have devoted themselves to the problems of compensatory education. Educational policy is, they believe, a necessary part of social policy.

The body consists of students, tutors and representatives of the Arts and sciences who want to cooperate with teaching bodies and those responsible for educational policy to show existing obstacles in education. They are campaigning for a school reform on a scientific basis to help rid certain sections of society, in particular the working population, of their educational inhibitions.

The action group, founded by students in 1966, considered its first task to give children practical help in the educational sphere. Working groups were set up where students interested in education divided up elementary school pupils into small groups, normally of about ten, and went through their homework with them.

As was appropriate to the ideals of the action group, the first working circles of this type were set up in the Berlin administrative districts of Kreuzberg and Neukölln, areas with a high working population. Since then the number of working circles has been increased to 140 and other districts of Berlin have been included in the scheme, sometimes because of the wishes of the parents and sometimes because of the wishes of the schools themselves.

Up till now elementary pupils from classes four to six have participated in these groups. Now it is planned to include younger children from class two onwards in the scheme and give them help. In order to be effective compensatory education must begin as soon as possible, ideally before the child starts school.

The problem of taking care of younger children is already present as pupils often bring their younger brothers and sisters into the circle. Hansjörg Hilke, the chairman of the action group, said that there was a lack of suitable play material for use in learning. The children should be given sensible things to do, the circle did not want to be a day nursery.

But problems emerge from other spheres too. The work of the action group is made more difficult by the widespread prejudice against students. Great patience and a capacity for identification is needed to overcome these prejudices in conversations with parents. When there is no longer any mistrust educational cooperation between parents and circle leaders is particularly fruitful.

The headmistress of a Berlin elementary school who has supported the action group to the best of her ability confirmed that a great deal of success had been recorded in this sort of cooperation. "Many border-line children have been able to make the grade thanks to the help of the students and their working circles."

But members of the action group for better education are not going to rest on their laurels after their initial success. They want to spread beyond work done in the circle and, in cooperation with educationalists from the Berlin Educational Centre, work out a plan for compensatory education to include the pupil's leisure time. Courses of leisure time activity will be on offer ranging from model-making to drama. The pupils' existing penchants and abilities will be stimulated and developed and the pupil will be given various ideas as to future educational plans.

The activities of the action group have been recognised by the Berlin School Senator. Now material support is being offered as well as moral support.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 December 1969)

■ ARCHAEOLOGY

Work on Stone Age dig at Gönnersdorf

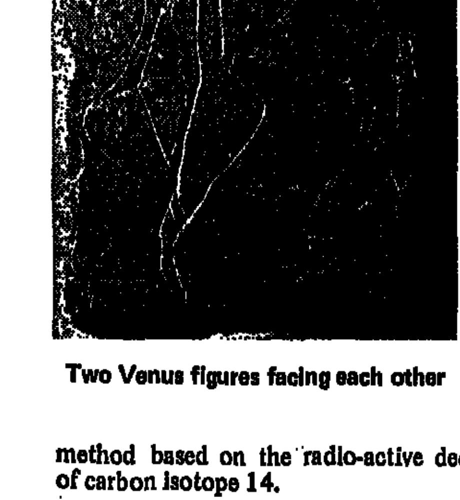
In March 1968 an old Stone Age settlement was found in Feldkirchen-Gönnersdorf 160 feet above the level of the River Rhine on a slope looking south towards the town of Andernach.

The find has proved to be profitable. There has been no other example found in this country that rivals it in either size or condition.

It is situated clearly between two volcanic strata consisting of pumice and basalt. This stroke of good fortune allows an accurate dating of the site that is more recent that the basalt stratum on which it rests (18,000 years old) and older than the pumice stratum above it (10,000 years old).

Leading the excavation is Dr Gerhard Bosinski of Cologne University's department of Ancient History. He estimates the age of the site to be between 13,000 and 15,000 years. The age will be determined exactly with the help of the radio-carbon





Two Venus figures facing each other

method based on the radio-active decay of carbon isotope 14.

Excavation work begun in March 1968 lasted five months and was carried out by Cologne University's department of Ancient History in cooperation with the state office of ancient history in Koblenz.

The first plan of campaign at the excavation – the existence of which was in extreme danger because of a new building to be erected there – was the examination of a surface measuring approximately one hundred square yards.

Unfortunately financial factors meant that no futher sections of the excavation could be examined. Work done had been financed mainly from private donations.

Probes have shown that further important discoveries are to be reckoned with at Gönnersdorf. The next stage of excavation is to begin there in the spring of 1970. The archaeologists are to be wished appropriate support so that, as Dr Bosinski says, a site of extreme importance in the history of civilisation can be explored.

Frankfurter Allgemeine ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

At present Dr Bosinski is examining, classifying and cataloguing existing finds. Apart from a veritable multitude of stone tools made of quarzite and flint (burins, scrapers, scratchers, knives and drills) there are many tools made from bone, ivory and horn, including fine sewing needles with engraved eyes and heads.

One great surprise was the discovery of ornamental objects and numerous small works of art. Excavators found a necklace of forty wooden beads as well as a number of drilled teeth from animals. The individual beads still lay as they would have done on a string. The wooden beads found are disk-shaped, spherical, cylindrical, almost rectangular and also the shape of a shoe-tree.

Works of art found in Gönnersdorf are an archaeological specially for these lines of latitude. Special mention must be made of eleven stylised female figures carved on mammoth tusks, reindeer antlers and bones.

These Venus figures are also to be found engraved on slate platters that were also excavated. Over one hundred examples were found. It is noticeable that these representations are all headless and legs are only hinted at. Bosoms and bottoms are however pronounced.

Over 5,000 slate platters are now in store at Cologne University and many of them have engravings that are still to be interpreted. Some platters have geometric patterns and symbols whose significance we cannot tell.

In contrast to the fleeting human depictions the drawings of animals are numerous and distinguish themselves with their authenticity. A mammoth is scratched on about thirty of the platters. One of them shows a mammoth with its trunk rolled up. While the front legs of the animal are clumsily depicted the compact bulk is clearly expressed.

The next most common animal on the platters are wild horses and the woolly-haired rhinoceros. On one small slate platter no bigger than a half-crown the head of an ox is sketched with a few strokes yet the reproduction is excellent and full of life.

The style of the reproductions show the French influence. They are to be included on the Magdalenian cultural stage, so called after the excavations at La Madeleine in the South of France.

Ice Age settlers at Gönnersdorf were hunters and scavengers. Bones found show that wild horses were among the main animals hunted. Ninety per cent of bones found came from wild horses. Apart from mammoth, deer and ox bones a large percentage of bones come from larger birds like ptarmigans.

The large number of objets d'art also show that the settlers already devoted their minds to more than plain survivial in a rough and inhospitable environment. Like the frequently multicoloured cave paintings in the South of France and North of Spain the slate engravings of Gönnersdorf do not represent l'art pour l'art but worship.

It is now important to interpret the engravings. Photographic enlargements often show things that cannot be seen or are unclear in the original.

The significance of the circular scratches in the region of the heart of animals depicted are still an enigma. With human beings it is still not clear if the engravings are meant to reproduce standing or supine figures. Other engravings show a series of lines that seem to represent a group, perhaps of dancers.

The planned resumption of excavation work raises hopes of further important finds that will enable us to fill in the gaps in our knowledge of the way of life of homo sapiens during the Ice Age.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 December 1969)

Head of an ox incised on slate

(Photo: Ernst Prokop)

Berlin archaeology exhibition in Lübeck

An exhibition at Lübeck's Dom Museum presents a cross-section of the early history of Berlin from the last Ice Age up to the thirteenth century based on archaeological finds supplied by responsible authorities in Berlin.

Finds, maps, plans, surveys and reconstructions help the exhibition trace the cultural and historical development of the area.

The first exhibits come from 20,000 years ago when the ice started to melt. On show is hunters' equipment such as the carved bones of a giant deer found in Spandau and a stake made of deer antler found at the Hansaplatz near the former zoo. Valuable finds were made when a camp of reindeer hunters was excavated on Tegeler Fliess in the suburb of Reinickendorf.

From the New Stone Age (4000-3000 B.C.) we see graves with worked ceramic and stone hatchets. These were uncovered at Dachsberg on the Havel in the Wilmersdorf area and at Rudow in Neukölln.

Treasure from the Early Bronze Age found at Lichtenrade, Tempelhof illustrates the foreign trade relations of the Berlin area around 2000 B.C.

The Bronze Age is represented by a section of the graveyard of urns found at Gottesberg in Reinickendorf and the sacrificial well found in the middle of a large village in Lichtenfelde in the district of Steglitz.

The Germanic era is distinguished by some especially peculiar and rare finds. This period stretching from about 500 B.C. to the late migration period gives rise to a wooden plough found at Steinbergpark, Reinickendorf, charcoal furnaces from Schloss Bellevue, the seat of the Federal President, the sacrificial find at Schöneberg with the bronze figure of an ox and the richly decorated and equipped tomb of a girl at Britz.

From the Slav era come finds from the Spandau Burgwall and the graveyard on Krowelstrasse.

German settlement of the area began in the twelfth century. Finds from this period have been made with the fortress of the Ascanians underneath the Spandau citadel and also St Nicholas church.

The section of the excavation, still not completed, on the Krummen Fenn at Düppel in the district of Zehlendorf is of special historical importance to researchers.

The systematic exposure of a twelfth-century village shows not only the results of the settlement of Berlin but also the role of archaeology in working out the processes of the history of towns and countryside.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 7 December 1969)



Diploducus Longus

These repiles, now in the Senckenberg Museum, existed in the Triassic and Cretaceous periods. They were approximately sixty feet long and fifteen feet tall. The Senckenberg Museum is the most modern of its kind in Europe. (Photo: Keystone)

VIEWPOINT

Impact of direct investment on world trade

BY PROFESSOR KARL SCHILLER, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER

The Federal Republic has moved to the forefront of world trade. In terms of imports and exports it comes second among the nations of the world. The volume and vitality of its foreign trade have considerable impact on the external trading relations of many other countries. Apart from the movement of merchandise, there are flows of invisibles, such as service and capital transactions, whose significance is often underestimated. Other leading nations, with a long-established commercial tradition, unbroken by two lost world wars, are more closely integrated in world trade, through a broad array of external relations.

The Federal Republic, by contrast, for many decades concentrated on exporting. In the past few years it has steadily abandoned partiality in its foreign trading relations. Capital transactions have gradually gained momentum and latterly have surged ahead. Up to the end of 1966 the Federal Republic was a net importer of long-term private capital. Since then the pendulum has manifestly swung in the opposite direction. In 1967 the net capital outflow was already considerable and it climbed to 10,000 million Marks in 1968.

The record of 12,700 million Marks was attained in only the first nine months of 1969. This upsurge is mainly accounted for by portfolio investments and loans. There has been a notable change in the trend of direct investment: in 1968, for the first time, the ouflow exceeded the inflow-and in the current year the about-turn gained momentum. The gap between Federal Republic's new equity investment abroad and new foreign equity capital invested in the Federal Republic is increasingly narrowing. The process of bringing the situation to normal, although somewhat delayed, is well under way.

In the meantime the Federal Republic has become a major international capital market, principally offering domestic funds, but also negotiating foreign loans. In the long run it will not be possible to maintain the volume of portfolio investments and lending at the present level without unduly restricting the supply of investment capital to domestic barrowers and reducing the growth potential of German commerce and industry. In this respect it must be borne in mind that this is one of the few countries whose capital market is open to foreign issuers.

Capital exports in the form of portfolio investments are largely determined by market conditions which, in turn, generally depend on factors of only temporary influence. Among them is the yield gap, the margin of yield foreign securities provide over domestic investment — mainly resulting from an interest policy aimed at bringing the balance of payments into equilibrium — and inflow of liquid funds through large active surpluses on current account and a comparatively sluggish domestic demand for capital in times of a consistently high level of savings. This state of affairs was substantially changed by the revaluation of the Mark on 24 October 1969.

Through this rise in our currency's parity value, its increase in price in terms of production will be slightly diverted from foreign to home markets. This change in the pattern of distribution of manufactured goods will be reflected in the balance of capital transactions; the capital market will channel a correspondigly larger volume of funds to domestic borrowers.

Changes in the structure of capital transactions and therefore in direct investment are independent of changes brought about by counter cyclical and balance of payments measures. The growth of direct investment will thus not be curbed in any other way by the previously described re-aligment. On the contrary, I am of the opinion, that this highest form of international economic integration will derive additional stimulus from revaluation. In the past, differences in price patterns in individual countries constituted an obstacle to building up our direct investment abroad, but they encouraged the flow of foreign direct investment into this country. For many enterprises it was easier and more profitable to export than to invest abroad. This situation was remedied by revaluation of the Mark.

Special significance should be attached to the structural change in our capital exports. Flow of direct investment must not be merely one-way. It should enduringly and intimately link up the national economies to mutual advantage. Much has already been written about its advantages, so I shall confine myself to a brief outline. Direct investments facilitate the distribution of world manpower resources. They promote economic integration within an overall international market and assists in raising the standard of living to a uniformly high level. The resulting growth benefits all concerned, in the investing and recipient countries. Often, direct investment greatly stimulates growth, because as a rule it entails the provision of techical knowledge, managerial skills and support. Unlike loans and portfolio investments, it is nearly always a definite form of permanent capital.

For the entrepreneur investment, irrespective of whether it is to be made abroad or at home, is the sinking of capital into those projects offering the biggest potential return within the overall framework of the company's operations. Equity investment abroad, in particular, calls for careful, reflection on all economic aspects if faulty decisions and misdriected capital expenditure are to be avoided. It is for the investing company to decide where and in what it sinks its funds. Precisely as with investments at home, the decision will be based on an assessment of demand patterns and potential outlets. An exporting enterprise may decide to consolidate its position in foreign markets by sinking capital in marketing and manufacturing affiliates abroad. Equally, the purpose of direct investment may be to ensure access to raw material supply sources.

It is not within my province to advise on which forms direct investment should take. In one case the optimum solution may be to acquire a holding in an existing company; and in another it may be to construct a grass roots project by setting up a new company. But certain politico-psychological facts must also be borne in mind. Almost everywhere there is manifest fear of control by foreign capital. Such apprehension is, in particular, inflamed by the takeover of a going concern. The advantages for the recipient country of this type of direct investment are often not immediately apparent. By contrast, all advantages deriving from a newly established company are readily discernible. More jobs are found, raw material resources, previously untapped, are exploited, an obvious contribution is made to the growth of the economy. It would certainly be to the company's advantage to take account of these factors when embarking on a foreign venture, because only if all parties accept the direct investment without reserve can it flourish.

This positive assessment of direct investment and awareness that, from the overall economic aspect, interlocking capital arrangements are likely to be most beneficial if the market forces are given free rein, determine the line of the Government's activity in this field. In the first place, material obstacles to German equity investment abroad, both at home and in recipient countries, must be removed and conditions of free competitive enterprise ensured. A positive step to this end was the cancellation of tax regulations discriminating against direct investment, long proposed and given statutory effect by the Taxation Amendement Act, 1969, passed during the life of the previous Bundestag.

It is understandable that for capital projects abroad the entrepeneur sets the risk level higher than at home. In particular, there are contingencies beyond the company's orbit of influence, which therefore defy accurate calculation. In individual instances a risk can be of such magnitude as to impose a weighty burden on an enterprise. Moreover, in some cases the trading or industrial concern may not be able to raise immediately the full amount of equity capital required.

To kill two birds with one stone, my Ministry suggested the establishment of voluntary mutual-aid associations, for sharing the burdens of risk. Their members would include the companies concerned, their trade associations and banks. Such institutions would provide coverage for the major part of the risks entailed in a direct investment and at the same time assist in raising on the capital market such funds required for financing purposes. The government could give a certain amount of assistance to enable industry to join forces to assist itself by providing a limited amount of coverage for the liabilities assumed by the voluntary risk-sharing associations.

Investments in developing countries pose special problems and call for active encouragement, in that the conditions are considerably less favourable than in the industrial world. The position of the emergent nations justifies the granting of tax concessions to the investor. The Government must provide guarantees to cover the special risks entailed. The relevant measures were adopted through the provisions of the Development Aid Tax Act, by giving guarantees to cover political risks and concluding investment promotion agreements.

The Federal Republic thus takes account of the immense advantages afford by direct investment in the furtherance of economic development. At the same time, it contributes substantial development aid amounting to one per cent of its gross national product, thereby assisting in the implementation of the New Delhi recommendation to the advanced nations.

Capital exports in the form of direct investment must be co-ordinated within the framwork of foreign trade policy and of overall economic policy. This means they must be brought into line with other aims of economic and social policy and at the same time conform to the principles of freedom in foreign trade and competition. In pursuing its thus aligned policy with regard to trans-frontier capital movements, anchored to a foreign trade policy largely directed at stability, growth and international economic integration. This country is contributing to the economic progress of the international community. Stability and growth at home form the foundation, for enduring assistance in the furtherance of international economic development. Closely integrated world trade is to the advantage of all.

(Industriekurier, 11 December 1969)

Increased trade with Eastern Bloc

Willy Brandt's government has made it one of their foreign policy goals to improve relations with the Eastern Bloc countries. This has in recent times been manifested by a friendly climate in industrial spheres.

The volume of trade between the Federal Republic and the communist bloc countries was no less than 765 million Marks more in the first eight months of 1969 than in the same period last year.

The section of the Bavarian industrial information office dealing with Eastern European trade has published a report stating that the bulk of this improved trading has been on the side of exports from this country.

Federal Republic exports to the Eastern Bloc countries up till the end of August increased to 3,266 million Marks, whereas imports from these lands only reached a total of 2,400 million Marks in value.

This corresponds to a trade surplus over the Eastern Bloc during these eight months of 866 million Marks. In the same period of last year the trade surplus was only 642 million Marks.

In the current year exports to Soviet Russia increased by more than fifty per cent and were just slightly above the 1,000 million Mark level. Imports from Russia, however, have only increased by a mere 800 million Marks. This means that along with the other communist states the Soviet Union is indebted to the Federal Republic.

For the Eastern Bloc states which are short of currency exchange there are two possibilities for pulling out of this uncomfortable situation. Either the Federal Republic will have to buy more from the communist states or the communist states will have to buy less from the Federal Republic.

The Economic Affairs Ministry made the following comment on the situation not long ago: "It seems that Comecon countries are having difficulties coping with the economic boom in this country..."

In fact exports from all Soviet communist countries were scarcely higher than Federal Republic sales abroad in 1968.

Experts say that there is only one way of combatting this trend. The structure of trade imports from the East must be altered. At the moment it consists largely of food, raw materials and semi-finished products.

Only 61 million Marks worth of machinery was imported from the East to this country, equalling one per cent of total machine imports to the Federal Republic.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 December 1969)

ADVERTISING

Insertions in school mags prove effective



"A fortnight before my school-leaving examination I still did not know what I would do when I left. At first I thought of applying to a shipping company. A fortnight after the exams I wrote to the University in the state capital and enrolled for a course in sociology and political science."

This was a young person speaking, who, like so many of his generation had been very undecided on his caeer and was caught up in the usual last-minute rush.

Many pupils go into the school-leaving examination with no idea of what university course they want to take, or if they want to take one at all.

It even happens that many young men bless the fact that they will be conscripted immediately after leaving school so that they can put off the choice of career a little longer. A number sign on voluntarily for two years service.

It was with this in mind that up till about one year ago the Bundeswehr advertised extensively in school magazines for young volunteers. At the Defence Ministry the largest number of enquiries about voluntary service have come from advertisements in school journals.

This is a classic example of how effective advertissements in the school press can be. The post office, Lufthansa and large private companies rely very much on this source of advertising for staff.

Branded articles also boost their sales with school advertising, particularly soft drinks, cosmetics, and feminine hygiene articles.

In a leadership analysis carried out by the "ZAV Special Agency for Youth Advertising" in Mainz it has been shown that ninety per cent of young people who read school journals and non-commercial magazines are between 14 and 23 years of age.

Of these seventy per cent are from high-schools and ten per cent go to secondary-technical schools.

The agency states that in 1968 there were in all 1,387 school magazines and non-commercial publications being printed in this country with a total circulation of 3,032,700 copies.

About ninety per cent of the advertising in all these Federal Republic school magazines is handled by the agency in Mainz. It dealt with 300,000 Mark's-worth of advertising for the armed forces alone in the year.

This was almost half the total turnover until, just over one year since, the Bundeswehr stopped advertising in school publications. Even before that they had made the stipulation that in any magazine which took their advertising there should no articles criticising the armed forces not advertiseements for conscientious objectors' organisations.

When the advertising was finally withdrawn the reason given was economy measures. In fact the real reason was a political decision since the campaign against the Vietnam War was hotting up. On top of this there were differences of opinion with the agency, which was not prepared to comply with all the stipulations made by the Bundeswehr in connection with their adverts.

It is recognition of the fact that the majority of pupils nearing school-leaving age are not yet firmly decided in their choice of caeer that has caused changing trends in advertising in school magazines since they were first started in the early fifties.

From the very start school magazines have had to rely on adveritising revenue for their continuation. Selling prices of ten pfennings to sixty pfennings were not enough to cover printing and paper costs even in the cases where the magazine was subsidised.

But advertisers, although keen to publish in school magazines were brought up with a halt when they saw the problems. There was a jungle of varying formats, printing processes and advertisement price-lists.

Added to that ir was often difficult to find the address to which advertising material should be sent. Company managers stumbled through a maze which they had never encountered with other mass media.

The lawyer who is now chief of the Mainz agency first realised what was lacking when he himself was a student. For six years he has been liaising with the school press and advertising agencies.

His effort has been aided by his wife who was also in the advertising business. He has now been in the business for seven years and since 1965 his agency has been a limited company.

The agency now employs several people and has a branch office in West Berlin. In 1965 and 1967 the agency produced a breakdown on the readership of these publications for young people. The later edition is still current.

The agency is the only in this country which has a complete record of every school magazine, non-commercial publication and students' newspaper on sale here.

Their files contain complete records of 1,275 school magazines, 112 periodicals owned and run by youngsters and 60 University and student publications. The records are constantly kept up-to-date.

In the early days local bookshops, stationers and cafes always inserted an advertisement since they were serving a good cause. But the number of ads of this kind has fallen off dramatically.

As the interest and influence of young people in political fields increases and the amount of political material in their publications goes up correspondingly more and more local concerns on which the papers depend for their existence are withdrawing their advertising revenue, hoping that school and student magazines which are politically a thorn in their flesh will become defunct.

A ZAV showed that the number of advertisements from local concerns, which was 72 per cent in 1965 had dropped to 66.5 per cent in 1967. In the same time the percentage of adverts coming from further afiled increased from 20.3 to 28.6 per cent. It is thought that this trend will be found to have continued at the next survey. It will probably have showed a marked increase.

This is for two reasons. Nationwide advertising increasingly sees the value of school magazines — school magazines are becoming ever more dependent on a wider field of advertising rather tahnthan just local organisations.

For the people from ZAV the days when school and other such magazines were filled with advertissements from bank mangers who did not want to see their company's name next to pictures of the Vietnam War are long gone.

There are far more positive reasons for placing ads in these publications for young people. Industrialists are keen to aim their advertising at young people and are no longer bothered by the political content of the publication which may be surrounding their insertion.

In a way the news story surrounding the advert has some psychological reasons for benefitting the advertiser.

ZAV chief Michael Galinski has said that the way schoolchildren identify with what they read in the school magazine should not be overlooked. They take a far more ready interest in what has been written, edited and printed by people they know and people of their own age than what might appear in a national daily.

The school magazine reflects their world. They are far more attentive to this than to commercially produced children's publications. This attentiveness applies to the advertisements as well as the articles.

It is far more likely that an advert inserted in a school magazine will be read than one placed in another kind of publication. This means that the number of readers who are lost in advance to advertisers is smaller.

This is particularly ture of people looking for personnel. Since scuh a large number of people approaching school-leaving age have not yet made up their minds what they want to be, advertisers are aiming their shafts at a ready public.

But up to the present moment companies and their advertising agents have only used the medium of the young people's press to a limited extent.

One of the main reasons was the cost. When advertising in the regular press a one page advert cost between ten and twenty Marks per thousand circulation. Certainly colour magazines and weekly papers involve a lot of wasted advertising which readers just gloss over, but this still compares favourable with the 120 Marks per thousand circulation it costs to advertise in school magazines.

Companies cannot and will not pay so much. Here the ZAV special agency steps in and tries to lend a hand.

Since October a supplement has been appearing in 500,000 copies of school mags. It is entitled "Berufswahl 69" (Choice of Careers). It is aimed at boys and girls who will be leaving school next spring and starting work.

These supplements are printed in offset and four colours by ZAV itself and sent to the printers of school magazines who staple them to the regular schoolboy journalists' work. Thus ZAV offers adventisers a better printing and distribution method than the school magazines can manage off their own bat.

Michael Galinski says that this expertiment has been an outstanding success and he is planning further similar supplements which will embrace branded articles.

Wolf-Gunther Brügmann

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 December 1969)



School magazines

Admen's practices criticised

Criticism has come from the committee of consumer associations (AGV) in Bonn for the Federal Republic economy's advertising methods as practised by advertising photographer Charles Wilp and other such "ad-makers".

It was said to be an astonishing sign of the state in which this country's industry found itself that an art advertising show could be held with less and less emphasis on informative advertising.

The best advert for any product was good quality and value for money. Such products in the long run found contented consumers and hence plenty of buyers.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 December 1969)

Shoppers should compare prices

The working committee to advise consumers has warned shoppers that they should not be caught up in the present wave of price hysteria.

Industry and trade can only enforce price increases if they are permitted to do so by consumer demand, it was said.

A more critical and aware attitude to prices should be taken particularly when buying the higher-priced consumer goods.

According to the consumers' organisation in the case of almost all products there are substantial differences in price in goods of like quality from on shop to another.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 December 1969)

Journalists' advertising prize for 1969

A recent statement from the Society of Advertising Agents (GWA) says that the annual 10,000 Mark GWA prize for journalists has not yet been decided for the current year.

Newspaper, radio and television journalists who in 1969 have published articles on the theme of advertising and other aspects of marketing can send these in any time before 28 February 1970 to the Society of Advertising Agents (GWA), 6000 Frankfurt, Friedensstrasse 11.

Prizes will be awarded for individual efforts or journalistic teamwork which has produced items on this theme during the current year.

The 10,000 Marks prize may be divided among more than one entry.

(Industriekurier, 9 December 1969)

INDUSTRY

Economic Affairs Ministry offers modern design prize

This spring the Ministry of Economic Affairs launched a good design prize for "outstandingly well designed products" on the German market. Fifteen hundred firms and designers, domestic and foreign, submitted products for consideration.

The only stipulation was that the goods have to be available in this country. They can then compete for annual prizes in — this year — the chairs, glasses and radio, TV, record-player and acoustical equipment categories.

After a second run a total of 28 items measured up to the exacting standards of the sixteen-man jury consisting of specialists from Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and this country.

On the occasion of the Berlin Industrial Fair last September the first and second prizes were awarded. In future, incidentally, prizes are not to be awarded in this form.

The entire collection is now on show in Essen House of Industrial Design. All objects are manufactured goods, although the competition was also open to handicrafts.

The first surprising fact is that a number of the prize-winning entries are veritable old-timers. Charles Eames's DCM plywood chair designed for the Hermann Miller collection, for instance, has been manufactured unchanged since 1947.

Eero Saarinen's red upholstered armchair designed for Knoll International, dating from 1950, is not much more recent in origin and Arne Jacobsen's plywood stackable chair with chromium-plated frame, manufactured by Fritz Hansesn Eft. A/S, a successor to Eames's chair, is a ripe old fourteen.

The astonishing fact is that the old masters of modern design still head the list with both their early models and their latest designs.

Charles Eames also has a red upholstered ribbed aluminium chair on castors on show, Eero Saarinen an oyster chair and armchair — which, however, hardly fits into the category of working-chairs with its rigid base.

Alongside them only Gerd Lange really makes the grade. His wonderfully flexibly conceived plastic oyster chair manufactured by Drabbert & Söhne and designed in 1968 well deserved a first prize.

The leather oyster armchair on castors designed by Jørgen Kastholm and Preben Fabricius for Alfred Kill is most extravagant and, as far as the form goes, more and armchair than a workchair.

It would be as well to observe silence about the remainder. The award is, after all, designed to counteract the run-of-the-mill, fashionable chair of unfortunate design that is so prevalent.

Silence is also called for as regards the majority of the glassware on exhibit, particularly the Gral glassworks veterans designed by Josef Stadler. This set of crystal globlets with an engraved lozenge pattern may have been on the market since 1933 but there is no justification for dubbing dubiously modern stalwarts aesthetic evergreens merely because they have been going so long.

Most of the glassware on show was designed in the sixties and either mediocre or a little too fashionable.

There remains the video-acoustic section. Once again an oldtimer, the famous 1962 Braun audio 250 hifi unit, that stands out a mile. It can still hold its ground today. The Brionvega ts 502 transistor radio designed by Marco Zanuso is another eyecatcher. It is red and dice-shaped with rounded corners and has to be opened to adjust the wavelength.

This third category best illustrates the problem of design awards. The aim of the enterprise with the original name "Good design" (which sounds either too prosaic or too much like a makeshift solution) is to publicise artistically and functionally better-class design against the background of the majority of mass products.

The educational and commercial aspects, training the public and expanding the market, go hand in hand, the financial side is only by-product of the award. The prize is merely a piece of paper and the kudos attached.

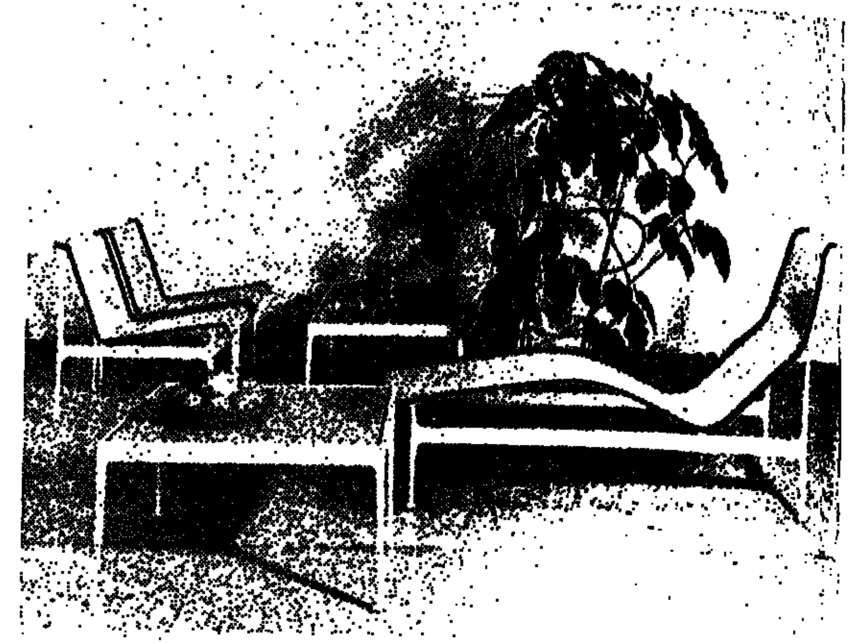
In order to give the whole scheme some continuity the award-winning products are soon to be allowed to carry a good design emblem. Arno Broker's design for the emblem is there to see but has not yet been finally accepted.

The Good Design awards are thus something like consumer council tests, albeit based on mainy easthetic criteria, that is, criteria that are hard to define and never entirely objective.

Functionally, a characteristic that can be checked, is overwhelmed by aesthetics: the real quality of the product — the sound reproduction of a radio and the wear and tear-resistance of a chair — goes by the board.

Together with the Good Design award the Economic Affairs Ministry also endowed a 15,000-Mark grant "for outstandingly well-designed products that have yet to find a manufacturer." Four designers share the award this year.

(Handelsblatt, 8 December 1969)



Modern chairs designed for style and comfort

(Photo: Knoll International)

Speeding main death cause on roads

Road deaths statistics for 1967 reveal the following percentages of factors involved: speeding (44%), pedestrians' mistakes (28%), drink (0.8 per cent and over) (28%), poor driving in respect of pedestrians (13%), disregard of road signs and "priority" (10%), bad overtaking, passing and meeting oncoming traffic (10%), black ice and bad roads (8%), driving on the wrong side of the road (7%), poor left turning (3%), not keeping distance (4%), worn tyres (3%).

Other factors noted by Deutsche Verkehrswacht, a leading road organisation, include: fog, wind and weather (3%), exhaustion and falling asleep (3%), bad lane discipline (2%), turning and emerging from exits (2%), walking on the wrong side of the road (2%), not using the pavement (1%) and physical or health deficiencies (1%). Accidents often involved several of the above causes.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 2 December 1969)

Porsche continues to participate in car racing

Porsche can hardly be accused of pulling out of racing; motor racing director Rico Steinemann has merely resorted to the subterfuge of entrusting the fortunes of the firm's racing equipe to a foreign private firm.

Next season the Porsche racing car and prototype world championship will be defended by a team consisting of Jo Siffert, Brian Redman, Pedro Rodriguez and one other driver who has yet to be named and an improved version of the Porsche 917 run by John Wyer Automotive Engineering and Gulf Oil.

The enormous expense of running the firm's own equipe having been eliminated, Porsche technical division has more time for development work. What is more, John Wyer of Slough, England, has an outstanding and experienced team at his disposal that pipped Porsche at the world championship post in 1968 and won the 1969 Le Mans Porsche had hoped to chalk up.

The firm's Salzburg-based Austrian subsidiary runs another team driving the successful 908 and consisting of Kurt Ahrens, Vic Elford, Rudi Lins and Hans Herrmann. Works cars are to be entered for the lucrative CanAm series next year (and driven by Joseph Siffert), also for a number of major European rallies.

In the Monte Carlo rally three 2.2-litre 911 Ss will be driven by last year's winners Waldegaard and Helmer, Larousse and Gelin of France and Ake Andersson of Sweden, who drove for the BMW works team last season. His co-driver has yet to be named.

Ferry Porsche, head of the firm, has endowed a sports trophy for the most successful private drivers. Last season the winners not only notched up important international successes; they also won no less than fifteen national championships. Since the trophy is worth 205,000 Marks, including 50,000 for the winner, even more powerful teams should be induced to enter for international events.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 December 1969)

Physicists report on effects of hydrogen diffused through metals

It has long been known that hydrogen in gas form diffuses through metals easily and fast. Frequent technological use is made of this property, in purifying hydrogen by passing it through layers of palladium, for instance.

A team of physicists headed by G. Alefeld has recently published the results of research into the behaviour of the gas within the metal carried out at the department of solid state and neutron physics at Jülich nuclear research centre.

The experiments, in the course of which niobium and vanadium were exposed to a hydrogen atmosphere, brought a number of surprises to light. A metal can, as it were, be alloyed with hydrogen.

The result is a mixture similar in kind to such well-known alloys as bronze or brass, which admittedly are composed of several metals.

As hydrogen is unable to settle on the regular lattice spots of crystalline metal it nestles in between and is able to move fairly freely in the spaces between lattice strata. Because of the high mobility of hydrogen even in a metal physicists talk of lattice gas in deference, as it were, to the gaseous properties it retains.

This lattice gas was the subject of experiments in Jülich. A hydrogenous sample was, for instance, bent, bringing pressure to bear on the side bent concave and stretching the side bent convex.

On the concave side the gas in the metal lattice was compressed; on the convex side rarefied. The varying pressure resulted in a flow of hydrogen through the metal, bringing about a change in flexibility.

If the metal is fashioned into a spring and pressure applied pressure variations occur. The flow of hydrogen causes the spring to oscillate of its own accord.

This is not the only peculiarity. Inquisitive as physicists are they wondered about another possibility. Reduced to a very low temperature hydrogen in a free state can be liquefied. Can the same effect be achieved with lattice gas? Radiological tests proved that it can.

In transition from a gaseous to a liquid state the density of gas in a closed circuit, as it were, undergoes an abrupt change. Some of the gas molecules turn liquid, resulting in a perceptible fall in gas density. Lattice gas density can also be observed by means of radiological tests and the abrupt fall in density was experimentally confirmed.

The temperature at which lattice gas is transformed into liquid is, however, far higher than the boiling-point of hydrogen in the free state. Liquid lattice hydrogen develops in metal not at minus 253 degrees centigrade, as might be expected, but at temperatures of around 100 degrees.

(DIE WELT, 11 December 1969)

TECHNOLOGY

Computers recruited to aid telephone service



At the moment there are roughly 6,000 computers in this country. In five years time there will probably be three times as many. There are also 7.4 million telephones, one per 7.5 head of the population.

When people phone one another they transmit, store and process information. So do computers. Data transmission in a computer does, of course, function differently than the transmission of speech in a telephone line.

Data transmission by telephone is analog, that is, continual variations in electric tension occur analogous to the changes in sound pressure. As a rule computers process not continual signals but impulses similar to the Morse code, that is to say, the operate digitally.

In principle all kinds of information could be transmitted in digital form, not only data but also sound and vision. Whether there is any point in so doing is another matter. Understandably enough, computer manufacturers devote a great deal of time to telecommunications technology of the future.

One thing is certain: in future more and more information will be transmitted around the world. In the foreseeable future the videophone will play an increasingly greater part in human communications. The transmission of a single picture, it might be added, calls for a channel with a capacity 1,000 times more than needed for the transmission of speech only.

Even if telephone lines are used different rules apply to the increasingly important exchange of information between Man and computer and computer and computer. Data is transmitted in digitalised form. In order to use the post office telephone network information must be modulated and demodulated in a certain manner.

With a view to mastering the forthcoming flood of information thought must accordingly be given to a means of transmitting information that is as functional as possible.

At IBM's Zurich research laboratories — and Switzerland has the greatest computer density (200 per million working people) of any country in Europe — intensive work is going into future problems of data transmission.

IBM boffins see the telecommunications technology of the 21st century as an integrated system in which all kinds of information, including telephone conversations, can be transmitted in digital form.

As IBM's men in Zurich see things the situation at the moment is as follows: —

Over distances of up to six or seven miles it is cheaper to use a separate line for each speech circuit.

Over distances of between six and sixty miles multiple use makes investment in digital conversion and multiple time instead of multiple frequency signals worthwhile.

Over distances of more than sixty miles the situation is less straightforward. If the same cable is used roughly the same number of analog and digital amplifiers are required, the influence of greater digital bandwidth being offset by greater permissible muffling.

All things considered analog transmission remains cheaper over distances of this order, but only because digital amplifiers are still more expensive than the analog variety.

IBM expect, however, that this state of affairs will change to the advantage of digital technology, since the cost of digital components is falling faster than that of analog components. What is more, the quality of digital transmission remains constant regardless of distance.

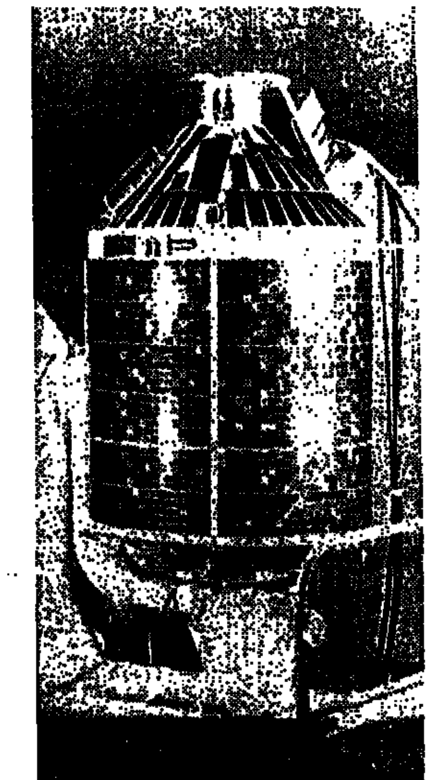
Analog or digital is a question that has been asked in this country for more than a decade. A few years ago the Bundespost's telephone network was expected to have been completely converted to digital transmission by 1975.

This optimism is past history — largely because of financial considerations. Consideration is still being given to the setting-up of a separate network for data transmission and storage, though.

More than 625,000 miles of telephone cable for digital transmission (using the now outmoded pulse code modulation) have been laid in the United States and IBM are convinced that digital technology is on its way to conquering the European market too.

At Siemens, on the other hand, the prevalent opinion was summarised by one specialist as follows: "In the coming decade analog transmission will remain with us."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 December 1969)



'Azur', this country's first satellite, launched into space on 8 November. The satellite was lifted off by means of a 'Scout' type rocket. 'Azur' weighs 160 pounds. Its orbit round the earth is between 235 and 2,000 miles up.

(Photo: dpa)

Hot gas welding machine



This semi-automatic hot gas welding machine welds minute transistors, condensers and integrated circuits at AEG-Telefunken's Heilbronn semiconductor works. Without the aid of a stereo microscope the components could be taken for specks of dust.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

Federal Republic's satellite programme

After the successful launching of *Azur*, the first research satellite to be planned, designed and built entirely in this country, which is to measure radiation in the Earth's inner radiation belt and the polar light zone and probe solar eruptions, information about further satellite and space probe programmes to be carried out by the Federal Republic may interest readers.

An interesting and informative list of future projects and the cost involved was published recently in *Interavia*, the space research journal.

The next project for launching will be *Dial*, another satellite designed to probe the geographical corona and the equatorial electrojet. It is due to be launched some time next year by a Diamant B rocket.

Dial development costs for 1969 are estimated at 4.8 million, for 1970 at 3.6 million Marks. By next year, in comparison, 63 million Marks will have been spent on the Azur project.

In conjunction with Nasa, the US aeronautics and space agency, the A 2 satellite is to be put into orbit in 1971 or 1972 with the aid of a Scout carrier rocket. A 2 is to investigate the upper atmosphere, special emphasis being paid to measurements of ionisation.

The A 2 project was commenced last year and will have cost about eight million Marks by the end of 1969. Estimates for 1970, 1971 and 1972 are 10.6, 11.5 and three million Marks respectively — a total of about thirty million Marks.

Also in 1968 work began on the A 4 research satellite, also to be launched with Nasa assistance. It is to be propelled skywards by a Scout rocket in 1973 and aid research into the intensity and direction distribution of cosmic gamma quanta of more than twenty megavolts.

The A 4 project will also cost somewhere in the region of thirty million Marks, the bulk of which (twenty million) is to be spent in 1971 and 1972.

The 6 June Franco-Federal Republic agreement provides for the launching of *Symphonie* a telecommunications satellite, in 1972. It is already clear, though, that the satellite will not be ready before 1973. It is to be launched by a Europa 2 rocket.

The function of Symphonie will be to carry out experiments into the transmission of radio and TV programmes, telephone calls, telexes and other data. Costs are estimated at 130 million Marks each for France and this country. By the end of 1969 Bonn will have spent thirty million Marks on the project. The venture is more than likely to cost more than estimated.

Experiments to measure the temperature profile of the atmosphere, photograph the clouds and Earth surface and determine geological structures are to be carried out by a meteorological satellite.

Project analysis is to begin in 1971 and launching scheduled to take place in 1974, using a Scout rocket. The project will cost an estimated fifty million Marks.

The development of a solar probe on which work began in 1967 and which is due to be launched in 1974 is to cost 175 million Marks. It will be launched by an Atlas Centaur rocket. Cooperation with Nasa is being prepared. By the end of 1969 the project will have cost roughly fifteen million Marks.

Including the Azur programme these projects will cost a total of roughly 490 million Marks, the largest slice of which — 155 million Marks — will be spent in 1972.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 December 1969)

OUR WORLD

An anti-authoritarian kindergarten

IS IT WISE TO LET CHILDREN RUN WILD?



When not long ago a young mother arranged, after a lengthy waiting period, for her 4-year-old daughter to join a kindergarten, three days after the event the nanny approached her and said: "If in a week's time your daughter has not learned discipline and tidiness, then you must take her back home. It is not on that she should stand up when the others sit down and run about just when she wants to."

Discipline, tidiness and obedience prevail here just as these modes of behaviour apply in many other schools. There is also some leeway to move about as the children wish, but it is limited. They must line up to go the few steps from the playroom out into the open air and they must do the same thing when it is time to return.

Children in these schools sing, play and eat to order. There is no doubt that pre-school education in the Federal Republic is still well and truly fixed in methods that applied in the Kaiser's era and other "splendid times".

The young rebellious generation is dead set against an educational system that includes anachronistic drill in kindergarten, school and in the home. These are the anti-authoritarian ones. Behind experiments for improved educational methods there are many experts who hold the view that the essential is to create places where children can go. There is a chronic shortage of kindergartens and day schools in the Federal Republic and West Berlin. Students, but more particularly girl students, have stepped in to help solve this difficulty.

They rented empty, mostly old shops cheaply and converted them with a little paint and furniture into "children's shops". While some mothers are doing their rota and looking after the children others can study and prepare themselves for exams.

Not only is there the mere necessity of finding somewhere to put the children but also methods of education for them must be found. It was only a matter of time before the student generation which seemed to be giving over much of its time to rebelling against the dusty old authoritarianism of the Establishment headed for new pedagogic horizons. Their aim was clear-cut: they were not going to raise yet another generation of children with the aggressive minds of subordinates as a result of excessive order and discipline.

In the "children's shops" they wanted and still do want, to produce a breed of men and women for the future who have developed freely and independently in a completely pressure-free atmosphere.

At first glance it looks as through these extra-parliamentary opposition "children's shops" are a children's paradise. In them the little ones can eat, sing, play and scream whenever they want and with as much din as they want. Here no one minds if clothes, faces and hands are soiled. Here there are neither prohibitions nor exhortations. According to the parents the children take care of themselves.

For the very reason that this example has such a positive effect at first glance, being a negation only of the old militaristic ideas, it is advisable to take a closer look.

The first thing that strikes anyone taking a closer look is that one of the first examples of anti-authoritarian teaching dates back to 1924 when the Russian woman psychologist Wera Schmidt set up a so-called children's home laboratory in Moscow which was the first attempt at laissez-faire education. What is happening in the Federal Republic today is not some new scientific experiment.

In contrast to Wera Schmidt and her students protégés modern psychologists dealing with child psychology take the view that apart from love and warmth the child also needs a mentor who will sometimes face the child coldly and say no.

On top of their doubtful qualifications for the job many of the teachers at the "children's shop" act in a manner which is no less authoritarian than in their parent's generation. How else can it be regarded but authoritarian if childish demands are made on the children's personalities to exercise carefully formulated crticism of their parent's society?

The Berlin "children's shops" offer pamphlets called INFOS. In the INFO dated 17 May 1969 one of the teachers reports how he played a game of demonstrators with the children. "We form a queue of children which marches through the ground floor rooms and forms a circle in the small room stamping out a rhythmic communist slogan.

"Each one of the children stomps around proudly trying to make more noise than the rest put together. I latch on to one child and the others latch on to me and we parade around in an unlinked chain.

"I let go and the others opposite me are in a chain bawling at me. The experience of having built a chain is the set piece for a later construction," this teacher explains.

Whether these same children when they are adults one day will think along the same lines is a moot point.

It is hard to avoid getting the impression that such indoctrination of young children and such abuse of their dependence is just a new form of subjection of the will to that of the parents.

This really has nothing to do with education in the true sense of the word. It is not based on the crying needs of the child. It is not based on the results of modern pedagogic research.

The question could be asked whether these so-called children's emporia are run on the lines of the most systematic modern didactic methods of pre-school training. One mother from the extra-parliamentary opposition has an interesting answer at the ready.

She says: "Naturally we know about all that, but we can't work with the material. I just can't seem to get along with it all. All these bright ideas about what a family is and does, father, mother, children and the like. But that's a load of rubbish. No-one's really interested in that sort of thing. Kids should be told what's happening in factories and that. That's what they really want to know of!"

At the centre of these avantgarde teachings are certainly not the children, but the adults who are without doubt utilising the tiny minds as a battleground for their contemporary political conflicts.

The claims of the Berlin children's shops to educate the youngsters in anti-authoritarian ways and prepare them to be better people in a better world is to say the least highly ideological.

An argumentation appearing in the "Rote Presse Korrespondenz" (a left-wing broadsheet) also appears to be more ideological than based on sound pedagogic ideas. It attacks the establishment of kindergartens as a business concern, saying: "Consider for the moment a child that is in a professional kindergarten, in a reasonably small group as is usual. During breaks the child sees its mother. For the mother this naturally means forcing maternal love on the child."

Even in those aspects where apart from the aims set by social welfare policy there is serious educational work being carried out the educators occasionally show signs of what could be called business management. These are probably those "children's shops" which use the scorned modern teaching methods, in contrast to the experiments in Berlin.

In these the children are giving the opportunity to learn through play how to read, write and do simple arithmetic.

The question this poses to the initiators of these "pre-schools" is what will the effect on children previously allowed to run riot be when they are thrown into the hard discipline of primary school. Surely it will be mental torture for them?

The instinctive answer given to this question is: "It may well be that there is apossibility of this. On the other hand the fact should not be overlooked that conditions in society do change and so do those in schools and perhaps some children have to become almost victims of this."

Mothers' wishes

A few mothers have expressed the hope that if their children can remain together as a group in one class they can survive the shock of the transition more easily.

Since children who have been educated in the laissez-faire manner do not become as meek and mild as lambs, but tend to go to the other extreme and become more agressive than children who have recieved other kinds of training difficulties often arise within the family.

Some parents who send their children to an anti-authoritarian establishment try to an overcome this problem by demanding an even greater degree of obedience in the home.

It seems that the juxtaposition of total

Continued on page 15

Home for crippled students at Marburg University

A home for crippled students, the first in Europe, was opened on 6 December at Marburg University.

The home, named after Konrad Biesalski who founded before the First World War the association to care for crippled people, has 77 single rooms. On each floor there is a small kitchen. Amenities for the students include colour television, refrigerators and the telephone. Laundry is included in the rental of 125 Marks per month.

Each room has a table and a washbasin, which can be easily used from a wheel chair. The water from the taps is regulated not to exceed 38 degrees centigrade so that students without arms or legs cannot scald themselves.

Many safety measures have been introduced. If it is ever necessary to evacuate the building with speed there are not only stairways and lifts but also a slide from each floor.

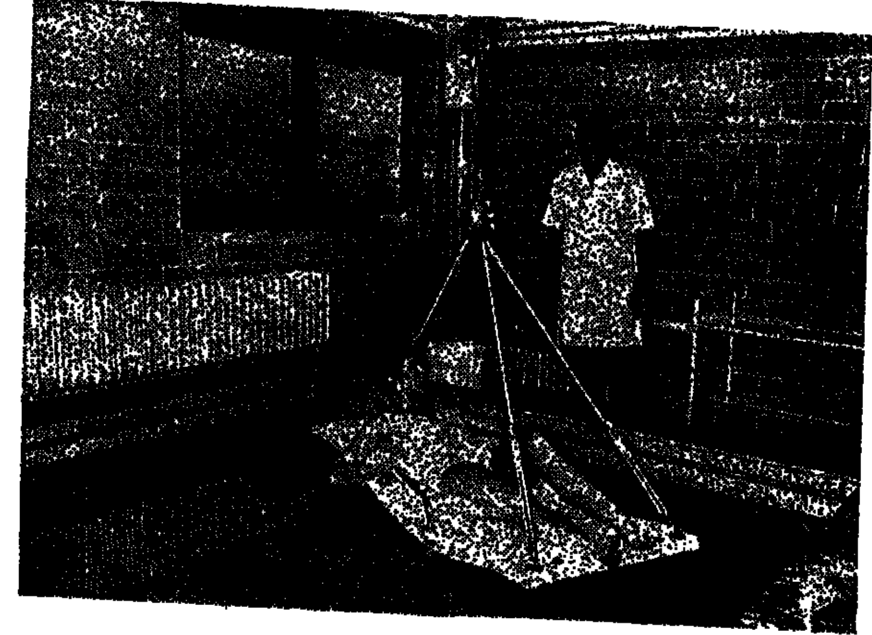
In order to make door opening easy for a student confined to a wheelchair - and people associated with incapacitated people know just how much of a problem this is – rip-cords have been installed across the ceilings connected to doors. The door then opens automatically and closes automatically after the person has passed through.

There are some students at Marburg University who are not very keen to move into the home that has been opened especially for crippled students. They say that despite all the comforts and care that the home staff have to offer they are not anxious to get mixed up in a kind of "Ghetto" situation. They do not wish to live with other crippled people but with ordinary people, integrated in normal society and accepted in it.

Provisionally more healthy students are living in the home than students who are crippled. This has been arranged so that the less fortunate students can achieve the integration they seek.

This arrangement has been accepted with enthusiasm by the crippled students who enjoy the company of the more fortunate ones who have moved into the student village and the home to live among them.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 10 December 1969)



Therapy bath at the Marburg University home for crippled students

(Photo: Heinz Elfert)

SPORT

Table tennis – a game that makes great demands

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

A smash hit at table tennis can travel at a speed of fifty metres a second, which is equivalent to 112 miles an hour. Even normal shots travel at speeds of ten to twenty metres a second.

If one works on the assumption that a player takes roughly a fifth of a second to react and bears in mind that the movement he then decides upon also takes time it is evident that he must plan his return stroke when the ball is ten metres away.

A distance of this order next to never occurs in table tennis so the player must base his return on the opponent's stance. Were he to wait until the stroke is played it would be too late in nine cases out of ten.

In a study entitled Training of Anticipation – Biological Bases of the Game of Table Tennis and published by *Deutsches Ärzteblatt*, the medical journal, the example of a sliced ball is adduced as proof of this theory.

An experienced player almost always has his bat in position to receive the stroke where it would have landed had it been played properly – a sure sign that the stance rather than the trajectory triggers off the first reaction.

A table tennis player must deal in fractions of a second with an amount of data processing that would not shame a computer.

Exciting results were obtained from an experiment in which experienced table tennis players watched other people's games and had to press a button as soon as they saw that one of the players was going to play a certain kind of ball.

The intention or first move of playing the shot was seen 0,15 to 0.2 seconds beforehand in the cases of fairly good players and not until the same length of time after the shot had been taken by good players.

In a tooth and nail battle only two fifths of a second elapse between individual shots, leaving a maximum leeway of 0.2 seconds in which to react.

This shows that a game of this kind makes demands on the player that almost reach the frontier of Man's ability to react. It also trains a facility that otherwise normally lies follow: the ability to react to the opponent's intention rather than to his move.

The time needed to react is not a constant. It depends on the difficulty of the decision that needs to be taken at a given moment and the more alternatives there are, the more difficult the decision is.

Considerations of so-called information theory now play a part. Indeed, the major tactical approaches result from use of the concept of information.

A distinction must be drawn between two strategies. One is based on physical consideration and amounts to an attempt to serve the opponent balls as hard and spun as possible so that he has difficulty in taking them.

The other possibilities is that of making best use of the element of surprise, a procedure to which the information theory concepts of the surprise factor and the obviousness of a move apply.

With an opponent whose forehand is as good as his backhand, for instance, it can be a matter of changing sides in the most favourable way possible in order to exact from him as much decision work and reaction time as possible.

Information theory gives a clear pointer. Both sides should be played equally but in as irregular a succession as possible.

Another problem is that of best incorporating surprise moves, in table tennis first and foremost tough, attacking shots, into the normal game. Is it best to be sparing with smashes in order to preserve the maximum element of surprise or are the prospects of success better if the ball is hit hard as often as possible, reducing the element of surprise but increasing the prospects of success?

According to information theory the ideal tactic is that in which the sum total of surprises is the greatest. This, it has been calculated, is the case when about two shots in five are surprise shots but taken at irregular intervals.

When it is borne in mind how many conditions must be fulfilled before anyone is a good table tennis player a mass sport appears under an entirely different light.

It is not only a matter of movement and leisure activity but, provided it is taken at all serously, first-rate training for the player's ability to perceive, think and react: training of anticipation, of reacting in advance.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 December 1969)

A table tennis master at work!

(Photo: Nordbild)

Continued from page 14

freedom in the kindergarten and a strict upbringing in the home functions well. But this compromise can only apply to a few cases.

For the majority of parents who believe in free educational methods, the ideas of complete self-expression cannot be switched off at the threshold of the home, so one day the question arises can they tolerate their children running wild around the house any longer? Can their nerves stand it?

On this point we have an answer from an extra-parliamentary opposition ideological father: "This simply cannot go on any longer. The little girl (she is four) is like a miniature tyrant. We can see no alternative but to clamp down on her antics at home."

It is not hard to see just what effect this sudden volte-face on the part of parents will have for such a young girl.

Certainly many things in our society cry out for reform: schools, universities, kindergartens, political parties, trade unions and other official bodies. But must reform take the shape of a relaxation of order and strictness, allowing more self-determination and independence and begin at an age when children are going to a pre-school when it is certain that as soon as they leave and go to a regular primary school this freedom will be taken from them in a very harsh manner?

Since it is certain from our experience that to consider the end justifies the means is a fatal concept must we really allow out children to become victims of such a system? Should not reform as well as education of free and self-determining people, particularly where young children are concerned be organised in a far less risky manner?

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 6 December 1969)

A bowler's fingertips need care

There are possibilities galore of getting blisters on your fingers. One of them is ten-pin bowling. But anyone with a little experience who still complains of bruised fingers has only himself to blame.

He has obviously taken bowling to be a sport demanding power only and the ball to be a weighty item of equipment that must at all costs reach the end of the lane as a result of the momentum provided by his thumb, middle and ring fingers. Maybe this demonstration of strength is merely intended to impress a girls friend.

A bowler who bowls in this way can measure his success not only in terms if blisters. He will also seldom score more than 100 to 120 points. Bowling involves a great deal of skill; the strength needed is minimal. It is more than likely that his girlfriend, slighter in build, will prove more elegant and successful at the game.

Critical observers of the sport as played at Hamburg bowling rinks cannot fail to come to the conclusion that strikes and spares are more than a matter of brute strength. They are a question of style.

An American import is growing perceptibly more popular, bowling has surprisingly quickly made the transition from a pure leisure activity to a sport. It is an organised sport with singles and team championships, state and regional leagues, national championships and World Cup games. And though Americans and Japanese still dominate the field players from this country have been known to figure among the world's best.

Bowling is not yet particularly widespread. The number of rinks in the country is not large, even though Hamburg, say, has five. There are commercial reasons why bowling does better in cities than in towns and villages. As yet businessmen decide where bowling is to be played.

The men who build and provide bowling facilities do not do so for reasons of pure altrusium. A rink manager carefully notes bar and restaurant turnover and game takings. Maintenance costs are high.

In order to attract as many people as possible the facilities must be kept as clean as possible and the air conditioning must be in perfect condition. The smell of stale beer and cold cigarette smoke seldom hand around bowling alleys.

Bowling is growing increasingly popular among firms. Hardly one of the major banks is missing from the notice-board at one of Hamburg's bowling rinks and teams are raised by most large industrial concerns.

Bowling provides the ideal combination of friendly recreation and sporting activity and many firms no longer just send overseas guests on an accompanied tour of the Reeperbahn, the centre of the city's night life. They include an evening's bowling too.

(DIE WELT, 11 December 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft. 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d